A/50/49 (Vol.I)

United Nations

Resolutions
and
Decisions

adopted by the General Assembly during its fiftieth session

Volume I
19 September – 23 December 1995

General Assembly
Official Records • Fiftieth Session
Supplement No. 49 (A/50/49)

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NOTE

The resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly are identified as follows:

Regular sessions

Until the thirtieth regular session, the resolutions of the General Assembly were identified by an arabic numeral followed by a roman numeral in parentheses indicating the session (for example: resolution 3363 (XXX)). When several resolutions were adopted under the same number, each of them was identified by a capital letter placed between the two numerals (for example: resolution 3367 A (XXX), resolutions 3411 A and B (XXX), resolutions 3419 A to D (XXX)). The decisions were not numbered.

Since the thirty-first session, as part of the new system adopted for symbols of General Assembly documents, resolutions and decisions have been identified by an arabic numeral, indicating the session, followed by an oblique stroke and another arabic numeral (for example: resolution 31/1, decision 31/301). When several resolutions or decisions were adopted under the same number, each of them has been identified by a capital letter placed after the two numerals (for example: resolution 31/16 A, resolutions 31/6 A and B, decisions 31/406 A to E).

Special sessions

Until the seventh special session, the resolutions of the General Assembly were identified by an arabic numeral followed, in parentheses, by the letter "S" and a roman numeral indicating the session (for example: resolution 3362 (S-VII)). The decisions were not numbered.

Since the eighth special session, resolutions and decisions have been identified by the letter "S" and an arabic numeral indicating the session, followed by an oblique stroke and another arabic numeral (for example: resolution S-8/1, decision S-8/11).

Emergency special sessions

Until the fifth emergency special session, the resolutions of the General Assembly were identified by an arabic numeral followed, in parentheses, by the letters "ES" and a roman numeral indicating the session (for example: resolution 2252 (ES-V)). The decisions were not numbered.

Since the sixth emergency special session, resolutions and decisions have been identified by the letters "ES" and an arabic numeral indicating the session, followed by an oblique stroke and another arabic numeral (for example: resolution ES-6/1, decision ES-6/11).

In each of the series described above, the numbering follows the order of adoption.

* * *

The present volume contains the resolutions and decisions adopted by the General Assembly from 19 September to 23 December 1995. Resolutions and decisions adopted by the Assembly at its fiftieth session after 23 December 1995 appear in Volume II.

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I. ALLOCATION OF AGENDA ITEMS[1]

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2. Minute of silent prayer or meditation (item 2).
3. Credentials of representatives to the fiftieth session of the General Assembly (item 3):
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    - (*b*) Report of the Credentials Committee.
4. Election of the President of the General Assembly (item 4).
5. Election of the officers of the Main Committees (item 5).
6. Election of the Vice-Presidents of the General Assembly (item 6).
7. Notification by the Secretary-General under Article 12, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations (item 7).
8. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work: reports of the General Committee (item 8).
9. General debate (item 9).
10. Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization (item 10).
11. Report of the Security Council (item 11).
12. Report of the Economic and Social Council [chapters I, II, V (section A), VI (section N), XIII and XIV] (item 12).[2]
13. Report of the International Court of Justice (item 13).
14. Report of the International Atomic Energy Agency (item 14).[3]
15. Elections to fill vacancies in principal organs (item 15):
    - (*a*) Election of five non-permanent members of the Security Council;
    - (*b*) Election of eighteen members of the Economic and Social Council;
    - (c) Election of a member of the International Court of Justice.
16. Elections to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other elections (item 16):
    - (*a*) Election of twenty-nine members of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme;
    - (*b*) Election of twelve members of the World Food Council;
    - (*c*) Election of seven members of the Committee for Programme and Coordination.
17. Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments (item 17):[4]
    - (*f*) Appointment of members of the Committee on Conferences;
    - (*g*) Appointment of a member of the Joint Inspection Unit.
18. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (item 18).[5]
19. Admission of new Members to the United Nations (item 19).
20. Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance (item 20):
    - (*a*) Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations;
    - (*b*) Special economic assistance to individual countries or regions;
    - (*c*) Strengthening of international cooperation and coordination of efforts to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster;
    - (*d*) Emergency international assistance for peace, normalcy and reconstruction of war-stricken Afghanistan.
21. University for Peace (item 21).
22. Return or restitution of cultural property to the countries of origin (item 22).
23. Restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields (item 23).
24. Implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s (item 24).
25. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Latin American Economic System (item 25).

26. The situation in Burundi (item 26).
27. Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba (item 27).
28. The situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina (item 28).
29. Commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations (item 29).
30. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (item 30).
31. Cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States (item 31).
32. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference (item 32).
33. International assistance for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of Nicaragua: aftermath of the war and natural disasters (item 33).
34. United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa (item 34).
35. Question of the Comorian island of Mayotte (item 35).
36. Commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the end of the Second World War (item 36).
37. Zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic (item 37).
38. The situation of democracy and human rights in Haiti (item 38).
39. Law of the sea (item 39).[6]
40. Building a peaceful and better world through sport and the Olympic Ideal (item 40).
41. Support by the United Nations system of the efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate new or restored democracies (item 41).
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43. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity (item 43).
44. The situation in the Middle East (item 44).
45. The situation in Central America: procedures for the establishment of a firm and lasting peace and progress in fashioning a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development (item 45).
46. Assistance in mine clearance (item 46).
47. Question of equitable representation on and increase in the membership of the Security Council and related matters (item 47).
48. Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) (item 48).[7]
49. Report of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 (item 49).
50. Declaration of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity on the aerial and naval military attack against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya by the present United States Administration in April 1986 (item 50).
51. Armed Israeli aggression against the Iraqi nuclear installations and its grave consequences for the established international system concerning the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and international peace and security (item 51).
52. Launching of global negotiations on international economic cooperation for development (item 52).
53. Implementation of the resolutions of the United Nations (item 53).
54. The situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security (item 54).
55. Consequences of the Iraqi occupation of and aggression against Kuwait (item 56).
56. Environment and sustainable development (item 96):[6]
    (*c*) Sustainable use and conservation of the marine living resources of the high seas.
57. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Inter-Parliamentary Union (item 150).
58. Report of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994 (item 151).

59. Review of the role of the Trusteeship Council (item 152).[8]
60. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization (item 153).
61. Participation of volunteers, "White Helmets", in activities of the United Nations in the field of humanitarian relief, rehabilitation and technical cooperation for development (item 154).
62. Observer status for the Central American Integration System in the General Assembly (item 155).
63. Multilingualism (item 156).
64. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Agency for Cultural and Technical Cooperation (item 157).
65. Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development (item 161).
66. Universal Congress on the Panama Canal (item 162).
67. Strengthening of the United Nations system (item 163).
68. Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women: Action for Equality, Development and Peace (item 165).
69. Normalization of the situation concerning South Africa (item 164).

First Committee

(DISARMAMENT AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY COMMITTEE)

1. Compliance with arms limitation and disarmament obligations (item 57).
2. Education and information for disarmament (item 58).
3. Verification in all its aspects, including the role of the United Nations in the field of verification (item 59).
4. Review of the implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security (item 60).
5. Reduction of military budgets (item 61).
6. Scientific and technological developments and their impact on international security (item 62).
7. The role of science and technology in the context of international security, disarmament and other related fields (item 63).
8. Amendment of the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and under Water (item 64).
9. Comprehensive test-ban treaty (item 65).
10. Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East (item 66).
11. Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in South Asia (item 67).
12. Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons (item 68).
13. Prevention of an arms race in outer space (item 69).
14. General and complete disarmament (item 70):[3]
    (*a*) Notification of nuclear tests;
    (*b*) Further measures in the field of disarmament for the prevention of an arms race on the seabed and the ocean floor and in the subsoil thereof;
    (*c*) Prohibition of the dumping of radioactive wastes;
    (*d*) Review of the Declaration of the 1990s as the Third Disarmament Decade;
    (*e*) Transparency in armaments;
    (*f*) Step-by-step reduction of the nuclear threat;
    (*g*) Fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament;
    (*h*) Relationship between disarmament and development;
    (*i*) Measures to curb the illicit transfer and use of conventional arms;
    (*j*) Regional disarmament;
    (*k*) Conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels;
    (*l*) Non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and of vehicles for their delivery in all its aspects.
15. Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly (item 71):
    (*a*) United Nations disarmament fellowship, training and advisory services;

- (*b*) Regional confidence-building measures;
- (*c*) United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa, United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific and United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean;
- (*d*) Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons.

16. Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session (item 72):
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    - (*b*) Report of the Conference on Disarmament;
    - (*c*) Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters;
    - (*d*) United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research;
    - (*e*) Disarmament Week.
17. The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East (item 73).
18. Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects (item 74).
19. Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region (item 75).
20. Implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace (item 76).
21. Consolidation of the regime established by the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco) (item 77).
22. Final text of a treaty on an African nuclear-weapon-free zone (item 78).
23. Rationalization of the work and reform of the agenda of the First Committee (item 79).
24. Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction (item 80).
25. Maintenance of international security (item 81).

Special Political and Decolonization Committee

(Fourth Committee)

1. Effects of atomic radiation (item 82).
2. International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space (item 83).
3. United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (item 84).
4. Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories (item 85).
5. Comprehensive review of the whole question of peace-keeping operations in all their aspects (item 86).
6. Questions relating to information (item 87).
7. Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations (item 88).
8. Activities of foreign economic and other interests which impede the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples in Territories under colonial domination (item 89).
9. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations (item 90).
10. Report of the Economic and Social Council (chapter V (section C)) (item 12).
11. Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories (item 91).
12. The situation in the occupied territories of Croatia (item 92).
13. Question of the composition of the relevant organs of the United Nations (item 93).
14. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (item 18).[5]
15. Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) (item 48).[7]

Second Committee

(ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL COMMITTEE)

1. Report of the Economic and Social Council [chapters I to IV, VI (sections A to M, O and P), VII to XI and XIV] (item 12).[9]
2. Macroeconomic policy questions (item 94):
   (*a*) Financing of development;
   (*b*) Long-term trends in social and economic development;
   (*c*) External debt crisis and development.
3. Sustainable development and international economic cooperation (item 95):
   (*a*) Trade and development;
   (*b*) Human settlements;
   (*c*) United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II);
   (*d*) Science and technology for development;
   (*e*) Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s;
   (*f*) Women in development;
   (*g*) Human resources development;
   (*h*) Business and development;
   (*i*) International cooperation for the eradication of poverty in developing countries;
   (*j*) United Nations initiative on opportunity and participation;
   (*k*) Food and sustainable agricultural development.
4. Environment and sustainable development (item 96):[6]
   (*a*) Implementation of decisions and recommendations of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development;
   (*b*) Desertification and drought;
   (*d*) Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind;
   (*e*) Implementation of the outcome of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States;
   (*f*) International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction.
5. Operational activities for development (item 97):[10]
   (*a*) Triennial policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system;
   (*b*) Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries.
6. Training and research: United Nations Institute for Training and Research (item 98).
7. Agenda for development (item 99).
8. Renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership (item 100).
9. International migration and development, including the convening of a United Nations conference on international migration and development (item 101).
10. Implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (item 102).
11. Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women: Action for Equality, Development and Peace (item 165).

Third Committee

(SOCIAL, HUMANITARIAN AND CULTURAL COMMITTEE)

1. Report of the Economic and Social Council [chapters I, III, V (sections B and D to I), IX and XIV] (item 12).[11]
2. Elimination of racism and racial discrimination (item 103).
3. Right of peoples to self-determination (item 104).
4. Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family (item 105).[12]
5. Crime prevention and criminal justice (item 106).
6. Advancement of women (item 107).[10]
7. International drug control (item 108).

8. Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions (item 109).
9. Promotion and protection of the rights of children (item 110).
10. Programme of activities of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People (item 111).
11. Human rights questions (item 112):
    (*a*) Implementation of human rights instruments;
    (*b*) Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms;[13]
    (*c*) Human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives;
    (*d*) Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action;
    (*e*) Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.
12. Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women: Action for Equality, Development and Peace (item 165).

Fifth Committee

(ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY QUESTIONS)

1. Financial reports and audited financial statements, and reports of the Board of Auditors (item 113):
    (*a*) United Nations Institute for Training and Research;
    (*b*) Voluntary funds administered by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.
2. Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations (item 114).
3. Programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995 (item 115).
4. Proposed programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997 (item 116).
5. Improving the financial situation of the United Nations (item 117).
6. Joint Inspection Unit (item 118).[14]
7. Pattern of conferences (item 119).
8. Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations (item 120).
9. United Nations common system (item 121).
10. Financing of the United Nations peace-keeping forces in the Middle East (item 122):
    (*a*) United Nations Disengagement Observer Force;
    (*b*) United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon.
11. Financing of the United Nations Angola Verification Mission (item 123).
12. Financing of the activities arising from Security Council resolution 687 (1991) (item 124):
    (*a*) United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission;
    (*b*) Other activities.
13. Financing of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (item 125).
14. Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in El Salvador (item 126).
15. Financing and liquidation of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (item 127).
16. Financing of the United Nations Protection Force, the United Nations Confidence Restoration Operation in Croatia, the United Nations Preventive Deployment Force and the United Nations Peace Forces headquarters (item 128).
17. Financing of the United Nations Operation in Somalia II (item 129).
18. Financing of the liquidation of the United Nations Operation in Mozambique (item 130).
19. Financing of the United Nations Peace-keeping Force in Cyprus (item 131).
20. Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia (item 132).
21. Financing of the United Nations Mission in Haiti (item 133).
22. Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Liberia (item 134).
23. Financing of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda (item 135).

24. Financing of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 (item 136).
25. Financing of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan (item 137).
26. Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peace-keeping operations (item 138):
    (*a*) Financing of the United Nations peace-keeping operations;
    (*b*) Relocation of Ukraine to the group of Member States set out in paragraph 3 (*c*) of General Assembly resolution 43/232.
27. Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services (item 149).
28. Programme planning (item 158).
29. Human resources management (item 159).
30. Financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994 (item 160).
31. Report of the Economic and Social Council (chapters I, IX, XII and XIV) (item 12).[15]
32. Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments (item 17):[16]
    (*a*) Appointment of members of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;
    (*b*) Appointment of members of the Committee on Contributions;
    (*c*) Appointment of a member of the Board of Auditors;
    (*d*) Confirmation of the appointment of members of the Investments Committee;
    (*e*) Appointment of members of the United Nations Administrative Tribunal.
33. Admission of the World Tourism Organization to membership in the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund (item 166).

Sixth Committee

(LEGAL COMMITTEE)

1. United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law (item 139).
2. United Nations Decade of International Law (item 140).
3. Report of the International Law Commission on the work of its forty-seventh session (item 141).
4. Establishment of an international criminal court (item 142).
5. Report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its twenty-eighth session (item 143).
6. Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country (item 144).
7. Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization (item 145).
8. Measures to eliminate international terrorism (item 146).
9. Consideration of the draft articles on the status of the diplomatic courier and the diplomatic bag not accompanied by diplomatic courier and of the draft optional protocols thereto (item 147).
10. Review of the procedure provided for under article 11 of the statute of the Administrative Tribunal of the United Nations (item 148).
11. Review of the role of the Trusteeship Council (item 152).[8]

NOTES

[1] At its 3rd, 41st, 55th and 77th plenary meetings, on 22 September, 26 October, 10 November and 1 December 1995, the General Assembly adopted the agenda and the allocation of agenda items for its fiftieth session. See section IX.B.1, decision 50/402, for details. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 22 September 1995, the General Assembly decided, on the recommendation of the General Committee as set forth in its first report (A/50/250, para. 47 (*a*) (*iii*)), to defer a decision on the allocation of item 55 (Question of Cyprus) to an appropriate time during the session. For the numerical list of agenda items, see annex III.

[2] For chapters I and XIV, see also "Second Committee", item 1, "Third Committee", item 1, and "Fifth Committee", item 31; for chapter II, see also "Second Committee", item 1.

[3] At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 22 September 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee as set forth in its first report (see A/50/250, para. 47 (*b*)), decided that the relevant chapters of the annual report of the International Atomic Energy Agency (see A/50/360) would be drawn to the attention of the First Committee in connection with its consideration of item 70.

[4] For sub-items (*a*) to (*e*), see "Fifth Committee", item 32.

[5] At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 22 September 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee as set forth in its first report (A/50/250, para. 47 (*a*) (*i*)), decided to refer to the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) chapters of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (A/50/23) relating to specific Territories so that the Assembly might deal in plenary meeting with the question of the implementation of the Declaration as a whole.

[6] At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 22 September 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee as set forth in its first report (A/50/250, para. 47 (*c*)), decided to consider sub-item 96 (*c*) directly in plenary meeting in conjunction with item 39.

[7] At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 22 September 1995, the General Assembly on the recommendation of the General Committee as set forth in its first report (A/50/250, para. 47 (*a*) (*ii*)), decided that the item should be considered directly in plenary meeting, on the understanding that bodies and individuals having an interest in the question would be heard in the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) in conjunction with the consideration of the item in plenary meeting.

[8] At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 22 September 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee as set forth in its first report (A/50/250, para. 47 (*a*) (*vi*)), decided that the introduction and initial discussion of the item would be held directly in plenary meeting and its subsequent consideration would be held in the Sixth Committee.

[9] For chapters I and XIV, see also "Plenary meetings", item 12, "Third Committee", item 1, and "Fifth Committee", item 31; for chapter II, see also "Plenary meetings", item 12; for chapter III, see also "Third Committee", item 1, and, for chapter IX, see also "Third Committee", item 1, and "Fifth Committee", item 31.

[10] At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 22 September 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee as set forth in its first report (A/50/250, para. 47 (*d*) (*ii*)) decided that the report of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme on the operations, management and budget of the United Nations Development Fund for Women would be referred to the Second Committee for consideration under item 97.

[11] For chapters I and XIV, see also "Plenary meetings", item 12, "Second Committee", item 1, and "Fifth Committee", item 31; for chapter III, see also "Second Committee", item 1; chapter IX, see "Second Committee", item 1, and "Fifth Committee", item 31.

[12] At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 22 September 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee as set forth in its first report (A/50/250, para. 47 (*d*) (*i*)), decided that the plenary meetings to mark the tenth anniversary of the International Youth Year would be held on Thursday and Friday, 26 and 27 October 1995.

[13] At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 22 September 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee as set forth in its first report (A/50/250, para. 47 (*d*) (*iii*)), decided that a special commemorative plenary meeting to mark the end of the United Nations Year for Tolerance would be held at a date to be determined.

[14] At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 22 September 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee as set forth in its first report (A/50/250, para. 47 (*e*)), decided to allocate the item to the Fifth Committee, on the understanding that the reports of the Joint Inspection Unit dealing with subject-matters allocated to other Main Committees would be referred also to those Committees.

[15] For chapters I and XIV, see also "Plenary meetings", item 12, "Second Committee", item 1, and "Third Committee", item 1; for chapter IX, see also "Second Committee", item 1, and "Third Committee", item 1.

[16] For sub-item (*f*), see "Plenary meetings", item 17.

II. RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED WITHOUT REFERENCE TO A MAIN COMMITTEE[1]

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50/2	Observer status for the Central American Integration System in the General Assembly (A/50/L.2 and Add.1)	155	12 October 1995	11
50/3	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Agency for Cultural and Technical Cooperation (A/50/L.4 and Add.1)	157	16 October 1995	12
50/4	Credentials of representatives to the fiftieth session of the General Assembly			
	Resolution A (A/50/559 and Corr.1)	3 (*b*)	18 October 1995	12
	Resolution B (A/50/559/Add.1)	3 (*b*)	14 December 1995	12
50/5	Commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the end of the Second World War (A/50/L.3 and Corr.1 and Add.1)	36	18 October 1995	12
50/6	Declaration on the Occasion of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the United Nations (A/50/48)	29	24 October 1995	13
50/7	Mission of the United Nations in El Salvador (A/50/L.7/Rev.1 and Rev.1/Add.1)	45	31 October 1995	15
50/9	Report of the International Atomic Energy Agency (A/50/L.11 and Add.1)	14	1 November 1995	16
50/10	Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba (A/50/L.10)	27	2 November 1995	17
50/11	Multilingualism (A/50/L.6/Rev.1 and Rev.1/Add.1 and A/50/L.14)	156	2 November 1995	18
50/12	Universal Congress on the Panama Canal (A/50/L.13)	162	7 November 1995	19
50/13	The Olympic Ideal (A/50/L.15 and Add.1)	40	7 November 1995	20
50/14	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Latin American Economic System (A/50/L.16)	25	15 November 1995	20
50/15	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Inter-Parliamentary Union (A/50/L.20 and Add.1)	150	15 November 1995	21
50/16	Cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States (A/50/L.21)	31	20 November 1995	21
50/17	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference (A/50/L.22)	32	20 November 1995	22
50/18	Zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic (A/50/L.25 and Add.1)	37	27 November 1995	23
50/19	Participation of volunteers, "White Helmets", in activities of the United Nations in the field of humanitarian relief, rehabilitation and technical cooperation for development (A/50/L.23 and Add.1)	154	28 November 1995	24
50/21	Middle East peace process (A/50/L.24 and Add.1)	44	4 December 1995	25
50/22	The situation in the Middle East			
	A. Jerusalem (A/50/L.37 and Add.1)	44	4 December 1995	26
	B. The Syrian Golan (A/50/L.38 and Add.1)	44	4 December 1995	26
50/23	Law of the sea (A/50/L.34 and Add.1)	39	5 December 1995	27
50/24	Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks (A/50/L.35 and Add.1)	96 (*c*)	5 December 1995	28
50/25	Large-scale pelagic drift-net fishing and its impact on the living marine resources of the world's oceans and seas; unauthorized fishing in zones of national jurisdiction and its impact on the living marine resources of the world's oceans and seas; and fisheries by-catch and discards and their impact on the sustainable use of the world's living marine resources (A/50/L.36 and Add.1)	96 (*c*)	5 December 1995	29
50/39	Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (A/50/L.45 and Add.1)	18	6 December 1995	30
50/40	Dissemination of information on decolonization (A/50/23, chap. III, para. 9)	18	6 December 1995	31
50/41	University for Peace (A/50/L.42/Rev.1 and Rev.1/Add.1)	21	8 December 1995	32
50/42	Fourth World Conference on Women (A/50/L.46 and Add.1)	165	8 December 1995	33
50/56	Return or restitution of cultural property to the countries of origin (A/50/L.28 and Add.1)	22	11 December 1995	33

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[1] For the decisions adopted without reference to a Main Committee, see sect. IX.B.1.

Resolution No.	*Title*	*Item*	*Date of adoption*	*Page*
50/57	Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations (A/50/L.39)	20 (*a*)	12 December 1995	33
50/58	Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: special economic assistance to individual countries or regions			
	A. Assistance for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of Liberia (A/50/L.27/Rev.1)	20 (*b*)	12 December 1995	34
	B. International assistance to and cooperation with the Alliance for the Sustainable Development of Central America (A/50/L.29/Rev.1 and Rev.1/Add.1)	20 (*b*)	12 December 1995	34
	C. Assistance for the reconstruction and development of El Salvador (A/50/L.30/Rev.1 and Rev.1/Add.1)	20 (*b*)	12 December 1995	36
	D. International assistance for the economic rehabilitation of Angola (A/50/L.31 and Add.1)	20 (*b*)	12 December 1995	37
	E Economic assistance to States affected by the implementation of the Security Council resolutions imposing sanctions against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) (A/50/L.32 and Add.1)	20 (*b*)	12 December 1995	38
	F. Assistance for the reconstruction and development of Djibouti (A/50/L.33/Rev.1 and Rev.1/Add.1)	20 (*b*)	12 December 1995	39
	G. Assistance for humanitarian relief and the economic and social rehabilitation of Somalia (A/50/L.41/Rev.1)	20 (*b*)	20 December 1995	40
	H. Assistance to the Palestinian people (A/50/L.54 and Add 1)	20 (*b*)	20 December 1995	41
	I. Assistance for the reconstruction of Madagascar following the natural disasters of 1994 (A/50/L.56/Rev.1 and Rev.1/Add.1)	20 (*b*)	20 December 1995	42
	J. Emergency assistance to the Sudan (A/50/L.43/Rev.1)	20 (*b*)	22 December 1995	42
	K. Special emergency assistance for the economic recovery and reconstruction of Burundi (A/50/L.58/Rev.1 and Rev.1/Add.1)	20 (*b*)	22 December 1995	43
	L. Situation in Rwanda: international assistance for a solution to the problem of refugees, the restoration of total peace, reconstruction and socio-economic development in Rwanda (A/50/L.64/Rev.2 and Rev.2/Add.1)	20 (*b*)	22 December 1995	43
50/59	Work of the Preparatory Committee for the Fiftieth Anniversary of the United Nations (A/50/48/Rev.1)	29	12 December 1995	45
50/81	World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond (A/50/728)	105	14 December 1995	45
50/82	Assistance in mine clearance (A/50/L.57 and Add.1)	46	14 December 1995	56
50/83	Normalization of the situation concerning South Africa (A/50/L.44/Rev.1 and Rev.1/Add.1)	164	15 December 1995	57
50/84	Question of Palestine			
	A. Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People (A/50/L.47 and Add.1)	42	15 December 1995	58
	B. Division for Palestinian Rights of the Secretariat (A/50/L.48 and Add.1)	42	15 December 1995	59
	C. Department of Public Information of the Secretariat (A/50/L.49 and Add.1)	42	15 December 1995	59
	D. Peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine (A/50/L.50 and Add.1)	42	15 December 1995	60
50/85	International assistance for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of Nicaragua: aftermath of the war and natural disasters (A/50/L.18/Rev.1 and Rev.1/Add.1)	33	15 December 1995	60
50/86	The situation of democracy and human rights in Haiti (A/50/L.53/Rev.1)	38	15 December 1995	61
50/87	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (A/50/L.62 and Add.1)	30	18 December 1995	62
50/88	Emergency international assistance for peace, normalcy and reconstruction of war-stricken Afghanistan and the situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security (A/50/L.60 and Add.1)			
	A. Emergency international assistance for peace, normalcy and reconstruction of war-stricken Afghanistan	20 (*d*)	19 December 1995	64
	B. The situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security	54	19 December 1995	65
50/131	United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa (A/50/L.65 and Add.1)	34	20 December 1995	66
50/132	The situation in Central America: procedures for the establishment of a firm and lasting peace and progress in fashioning a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development (A/50/L.17/Rev.1 and Rev.1/Add.1)	45	20 December 1995	67
50/133	Support by the United Nations system of the efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate new or restored democracies (A/50/L.19/Rev.1 and Rev.1/Add.1)	41	20 December 1995	70
50/134	Strengthening of international cooperation and coordination of efforts to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster (A/50/L.26/Rev.1 and Rev.1/Add.1)	20 (*c*)	20 December 1995	70
50/155	Conference of States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of the Child (A/50/L.61/Rev.1)	110	21 December 1995	71

Resolution No.	Title	Item	Date of adoption	Page
50/158	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity (A/50/L.51/Rev.1)........	43	21 December 1995	71
50/159	The situation in Burundi (A/50/L.59/Rev.1)........	26	22 December 1995	73
50/160	Implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s (A/50/L.40/Rev.1)........	24	22 December 1995	75
50/161	Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development (A/50/L.66 and Add.1)........	161	22 December 1995	76

50/1. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 48/2 of 13 October 1993, by which it granted observer status to the Economic Cooperation Organization,

Recalling also that one of the purposes of the United Nations is to achieve international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian nature,

Recalling further that the Charter of the United Nations provides for the existence of regional arrangements or agencies for dealing with such matters as maintenance of international peace and security as are appropriate for regional action, provided that their activities are consistent with the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Bearing in mind that the Treaty of Izmir, signed at Izmir, Turkey, on 12 March 1977, created a permanent body for intraregional cooperation, consultation and coordination in order to enhance economic, social and cultural development,

Taking note of the communiqué of the Third Meeting of the Heads of Government of the member States of the Economic Cooperation Organization, held at Islamabad on 14 and 15 March 1995,

Affirming the need to strengthen the cooperation that already exists between entities of the United Nations system and the Economic Cooperation Organization in the areas of economic and social development,

Convinced of the need for the coordinated utilization of available resources to promote common objectives of the two organizations,

1. *Takes note* of the decision of the heads of Government of the member States of the Economic Cooperation Organization on the desirability of strengthening cooperation and coordination between the Secretariat of the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization;

2. *Invites* the Secretary-General of the United Nations to take the necessary measures, in consultation with the Secretary-General of the Economic Cooperation Organization, to promote and expand cooperation and coordination between both secretariats in order to increase the capacity of the two organizations to attain their common objectives;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in consultation with the Secretary-General of the Economic Cooperation Organization, to promote meetings between their representatives for consultation on policies, projects, measures and procedures that will facilitate and broaden cooperation and coordination between them;

4. *Urges* the specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system to cooperate with the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Secretary-General of the Economic Cooperation Organization in order to initiate, maintain and increase consultation and programmes with the Economic Cooperation Organization and its associated institutions in the attainment of their objectives;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization".

30th plenary meeting
12 October 1995

50/2. Observer status for the Central American Integration System in the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Considering that the Tegucigalpa Protocol,[2] registered with the Secretariat of the United Nations, modifies the institutional structure in Central America formerly known as the Organization of Central American States, and the purposes and principles thereof, and has instituted the Central American Integration System,

Noting that respect for the purposes and principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations is one of the basic principles of the Central American Integration System,

1. *Decides* to invite the Central American Integration System to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly in the capacity of observer;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary action to implement the present resolution.

30th plenary meeting
12 October 1995

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[2] A/46/829-S/23310, annex III; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-sixth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1991*, document S/23310.

50/3. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Agency for Cultural and Technical Cooperation

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 33/18 of 10 November 1978, by which it granted observer status to the Agency for Cultural and Technical Cooperation,

Recalling also that one of the purposes of the United Nations is to achieve international cooperation in solving international problems, in particular those of an economic, social and cultural character,

Further recalling that the Charter of the United Nations provides for the existence of regional arrangements or agencies whose objectives and activities are consistent with the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Noting with appreciation the desire expressed by the heads of State and Government of the countries that use French as a common language at their Fifth Summit, held at Grand-Baie, Mauritius, from 16 to 18 October 1993, to contribute actively to the solution of the major political and economic problems of today's world and to begin a new partnership with all the institutions that make up the United Nations family,

Considering that the Agency for Cultural and Technical Cooperation brings together a considerable number of States Members of the United Nations that use French as a common language, among which it promotes multilateral cooperation in areas of interest to the United Nations,

Convinced of the need to coordinate the use of available resources to serve the common objectives of the two organizations,

Affirming the need to establish cooperation, or strengthen such cooperation where it already exists, between the two organizations in areas of common interest,

1. *Notes with satisfaction* the support expressed by the heads of State and Government of countries that use French as a common language for United Nations activities and their desire to begin a new partnership with the institutions of the United Nations system;

2. *Welcomes* the involvement of the countries that use French as a common language, through the Agency for Cultural and Technical Cooperation, in United Nations activities, in particular the preparation for, conduct of and follow-up to world conferences organized under United Nations auspices;

3. *Notes* the complementarity of the activities of the Agency for Cultural and Technical Cooperation and the United Nations, as well as the programmes and other institutions of the United Nations system;

4. *Invites* the Secretary-General of the United Nations to take the necessary steps, in consultation with the Secretary-General of the Agency for Cultural and Technical Cooperation, to promote cooperation between the two secretariats, particularly by encouraging meetings that enable their representatives to consult one another on projects, measures and procedures that will facilitate and expand cooperation and coordination between the two organizations;

5. *Urgently requests* the specialized agencies and other bodies and programmes of the United Nations to cooperate to this end with the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Secretary-General of the Agency for Cultural and Technical Cooperation;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-second session the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Agency for Cultural and Technical Cooperation".

31st plenary meeting
16 October 1995

50/4. Credentials of representatives to the fiftieth session of the General Assembly

A

The General Assembly,

Having considered the first report of the Credentials Committee and the recommendation contained therein,[3]

Approves the first report of the Credentials Committee.

33rd plenary meeting
18 October 1995

B

The General Assembly,

Having considered the second report of the Credentials Committee and the recommendation contained therein,[4]

Approves the second report of the Credentials Committee.

91st plenary meeting
14 December 1995

50/5. Commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the end of the Second World War

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 49/25 of 2 December 1994,

Having considered item 36 of the agenda of its fiftieth session entitled "Commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the end of the Second World War",

Approves the Declaration in Commemoration of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the End of the Second World War, the text of which is annexed to the present resolution.

33rd plenary meeting
18 October 1995

ANNEX

Declaration in Commemoration of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the End of the Second World War

1. We, the representatives of the States Members of the United Nations, have gathered at a solemn meeting of the fiftieth anniversary session of the United Nations General Assembly to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the end of the Second World War, which brought untold suffering and ravages to humankind.

2. In this World Year of Peoples' Commemoration of the Victims of the Second World War, we bow our heads before the tens of millions who perished in their towns and villages or on the battlefields, or became victims of genocide in the death camps, and remember with gratitude those who fought against dictatorship, oppression, racism and aggression.

3. We note that one of the most remarkable results of the end of the Second World War was the establishment of a community based

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[3] A/50/559, para. 10.

[4] A/50/559/Add.1, para. 10.

on new principles—the United Nations, whose task is to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war. We reaffirm the resolve of our States to adhere strictly to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.[5]

4. We note with satisfaction that today, now that many ideological barriers have fallen and the "cold war" has ended, new opportunities are emerging for building a non-violent world and a system of genuine global security with the United Nations as the central element.

5. We recall the tragedy of the Second World War and the unprecedented suffering it inflicted upon various peoples and upon all of humanity. We are fully aware of the vital necessity of making all possible efforts to put an end to existing armed conflicts, to avert such conflicts in the future and to overcome the remaining legacies of the Second World War as well as the manifestations of political, economic and social inequality, and we call upon the States of the world:

(*a*) To reaffirm the commitment to refrain from the use or threat of use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State or in any other manner inconsistent with the principles and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations;

(*b*) To redouble their efforts to put an end to all conflicts and to save future generations from the scourge of new wars, *inter alia*, by drawing the lessons that emerge from the history of past conflicts;

(*c*) To promote democracy and human rights and to support universal access to culture;

(*d*) To focus their efforts on the objective of creating conditions for the general progress of humankind in larger freedom.

6. The fulfilment of these commitments will be the best way to pay tribute to those who fought for peace, freedom, democracy and human dignity and to honour the memory of the victims of the Second World War. Only in this way can we prevent new tragedies and ensure that all nations become a single community living in peace, stability, cooperation and prosperity.

50/6. Declaration on the Occasion of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the United Nations

The General Assembly

Adopts the following Declaration:

DECLARATION ON THE OCCASION OF THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Fifty years ago the United Nations was born out of the sufferings caused by the Second World War. The determination, enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, "to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war" is as vital today as it was fifty years ago. In this, as in other respects, the Charter gives expression to the common values and aspirations of humankind.

The United Nations has been tested by conflict, humanitarian crisis and turbulent change, yet it has survived and played an important role in preventing another global conflict and has achieved much for people all over the world. The United Nations has helped to shape the very structure of relations between nations in the modern age. Through the process of decolonization and the elimination of apartheid, hundreds of millions of human beings have been and are assured the exercise of the fundamental right of self-determination.

At this time, following the end of the cold war, and as the end of the century approaches, we must create new opportunities for peace, development, democracy and cooperation. The speed and extent of change in today's world point to a future of great complexity and challenge and to a sharp increase in the level of expectations of the United Nations.

Our resolve on this historic occasion is clear. The commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations must be seized as an opportunity to redirect it to greater service to humankind, especially to those who are suffering and are deeply deprived. This is the practical and moral challenge of our time. Our obligation to this end is found in the Charter. The need for it is manifest in the condition of humankind.

On the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations, we, the Member States and observers of the United Nations, representing the peoples of the world:

- Solemnly reaffirm the Purposes and Principles of the Charter of the United Nations and our commitments to them;
- Express our gratitude to all men and women who have made the United Nations possible, done its work and served its ideals, particularly those who have given their lives during service to the United Nations;
- Are determined that the United Nations of the future will work with renewed vigour and effectiveness in promoting peace, development, equality and justice and understanding among the peoples of the world;
- Will give to the twenty-first century a United Nations equipped, financed and structured to serve effectively the peoples in whose name it was established.

In fulfilment of these commitments we will be guided in our future cooperation by the following, with respect to peace, development, equality, justice and the United Nations Organization:

PEACE

1. To meet these challenges, and while recognizing that action to secure global peace, security and stability will be futile unless the economic and social needs of people are addressed, we will:

- Promote methods and means for the peaceful settlement of disputes in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and enhance the capabilities of the United Nations in conflict prevention, preventive diplomacy, peace-keeping and peace-building;
- Strongly support United Nations, regional and national efforts on arms control, limitation and disarmament and the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, in all aspects, and other weapons of mass destruction, including biological and chemical weapons and other forms of particularly excessively injurious or indiscriminate weapons, in pursuit of our common commitment to a world free of all these weapons;
- Continue to reaffirm the right of self-determination of all peoples, taking into account the particular situation of peoples under colonial or other forms of alien domination or foreign occupation, and recognize the right of peoples to take legitimate action in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations to realize their inalienable right of self-determination. This shall not be construed as authorizing or encouraging any action that would dismember or impair, totally or in part, the territorial integrity or political unity of sovereign and independent States conducting themselves in compliance with the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples and thus possessed of a Government representing the whole people belonging to the territory without distinction of any kind;
- Act together to defeat the threats to States and people posed by terrorism, in all its forms and manifestations, and transnational organized crime and the illicit trade in

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[5] Resolution 217 A (III).

arms and the production and consumption of and trafficking in illicit drugs;

- Strengthen consultation and cooperation between regional arrangements or agencies and the United Nations in the maintenance of international peace and security.

DEVELOPMENT

2. A dynamic, vigorous, free and equitable international economic environment is essential to the well-being of humankind and to international peace, security and stability. This objective must be addressed, in greater measure and more effectively, by the United Nations system.

3. The United Nations has played an important role in the promotion of economic and social development and has, over the years, provided life-saving assistance to women, children and men around the world. But the pledge recorded in the Charter that all Members of the United Nations shall take joint and separate action in cooperation with the Organization for the achievement of higher standards of living, full employment and conditions of economic and social progress and development has not been adequately implemented.

4. It must be recognized that notwithstanding past efforts, the gap between the developed and developing countries remains unacceptably wide. The specific problems of countries with economies in transition with respect to their twofold transition to democracy and a market economy should also be recognized. In addition, accelerating globalization and interdependence in the world economy call for policy measures designed to ensure the maximization of the benefits from and the minimization of the negative effects of these trends for all countries.

5. Of greatest concern is that one fifth of the world's 5.7 billion people live in extreme poverty. Extraordinary measures by all countries, including strengthened international cooperation, are needed to address this and related problems.

6. In response to these facts and circumstances, the United Nations has convened a number of specifically focused global conferences in the last five years. From these conferences, a consensus has emerged, *inter alia*, that economic development, social development and environmental protection are interdependent and mutually reinforcing components of sustainable development, which is the framework of our efforts to achieve a higher quality of life for all people. At the core of this consensus is the recognition that the human person is the central subject of development and that people must be at the centre of our actions towards and concerns for sustainable development.

7. In this context, we reaffirm that democracy, development and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development, are interdependent and mutually reinforcing.

8. In order to foster sustained economic growth, social development, environmental protection and social justice in fulfilment of the commitments we have made on international cooperation for development, we will:

- Promote an open and equitable, rule-based, predictable and non-discriminatory multilateral trading system and a framework for investment, transfers of technology and knowledge, as well as enhanced cooperation in the areas of development, finance and debt as critical conditions for development;
- Give particular attention to national and international action to enhance the benefits of the process of globalization for all countries and to avoid the marginalization from and promote the integration of the least developed countries and countries in Africa into the world economy;
- Improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the United Nations system for development and strengthen its role in all relevant fields of international economic cooperation;
- Invigorate the dialogue and partnership between all countries in order to secure the existence of a favourable political and economic environment for the promotion of international cooperation for development based on the imperatives of mutual benefit and interest and genuine interdependence, while recognizing that each country is ultimately responsible for its own development but reaffirming that the international community must create a supportive international environment for such development;
- Promote social development through decisive national and international action aimed at the eradication of poverty as an ethical, social, political and economic imperative of humankind and the promotion of full employment and social integration;
- Recognize that the empowerment and the full and equal participation of women is central to all efforts to achieve development;
- Reduce and eliminate unsustainable patterns of production and consumption and promote appropriate demographic policies in order to meet the needs of current generations without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs, recognizing that environmental sustainability constitutes an integral part of the development process;
- Intensify cooperation on natural disaster reduction and major technological and man-made disasters, disaster relief, post-disaster rehabilitation and humanitarian assistance in order to enhance the capabilities of affected countries to cope with such situations.

EQUALITY

9. We reiterate the affirmation by the Charter of the dignity and worth of the human person and the equal rights of men and women and reaffirm that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated.

10. While the significance of national and regional particularities and various historical, cultural and religious backgrounds must be borne in mind, it is the duty of all States, regardless of their political, economic and cultural systems, to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms, the universal nature of which is beyond question. It is also important for all States to ensure the universality, objectivity and non-selectivity of the consideration of human rights issues.

11. We will therefore:

- Promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms, which are inherent to all human beings;
- Strengthen laws, policies and programmes that would ensure the full and equal participation of women in all spheres of political, civil, economic, social and cultural

life as equal partners and the full realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all women;

- Promote and protect the rights of the child;
- Ensure that the rights of persons who can be particularly vulnerable to abuse or neglect, including youth, persons with disabilities, the elderly and migrant workers, are protected;
- Promote and protect the rights of indigenous people;
- Ensure the protection of the rights of refugees and of displaced persons;
- Ensure that the rights of persons belonging to national, ethnic and other minorities are protected, and that such persons are able to pursue economic and social development and live in circumstances of full respect for their identity, traditions, forms of social organization and cultural and religious values.

JUSTICE

12. The Charter of the United Nations has provided a durable framework for the promotion and development of international law. The continued promotion and development of international law must be pursued with a view to ensuring that relations between States are based on the principles of justice, sovereign equality, universally recognized principles of international law and respect for the rule of law. Such action should take account of developments under way in such areas as technology, transport, information and resource-related fields and international financial markets, as well as the growing complexity of the work of the United Nations in the humanitarian and refugee assistance fields.

13. We are determined to:

- Build and maintain justice among all States in accordance with the principles of the sovereign equality and territorial integrity of States;
- Promote full respect for and implementation of international law;
- Settle international disputes by peaceful means;
- Encourage the widest possible ratification of international treaties and ensure compliance with the obligations arising from them;
- Promote respect for and the implementation of international humanitarian law;
- Promote the progressive development of international law in the field of development, including that which would foster economic and social progress;
- Promote respect for and implementation of international law in the field of human rights and fundamental freedoms and encourage ratification of or accession to international human rights instruments;
- Promote the further codification and progressive development of international law.

UNITED NATIONS ORGANIZATION

14. In order to be able to respond effectively to the challenges of the future and the expectations of the United Nations held by peoples around the world, it is essential that the United Nations itself be reformed and modernized. The work of the General Assembly, the universal organ of the States Members of the United Nations, should be revitalized. The Security Council should, *inter alia*, be expanded and its working methods continue to be reviewed in a way that will further strengthen its capacity and effectiveness, enhance its representative character and improve its working efficiency and transparency; as important differences on key issues continue to exist, further in-depth consideration of these issues is required. The role of the Economic and Social Council should be strengthened to enable it to carry out effectively, in the modern age, the tasks it has been assigned with respect to the well-being and standards of life of all people. These and other changes, within the United Nations system, should be made if we are to ensure that the United Nations of the future serves well the peoples in whose name it was established.

15. In order to carry out its work effectively, the United Nations must have adequate resources. Member States must meet, in full and on time, their obligation to bear the expenses of the Organization, as apportioned by the General Assembly. That apportionment should be established on the basis of criteria agreed to and considered to be fair by Member States.

16. The secretariats of the United Nations system must improve significantly their efficiency and effectiveness in administering and managing the resources allocated to them. For their part, Member States will pursue and take responsibility for reforming that system.

17. We recognize that our common work will be the more successful if it is supported by all concerned actors of the international community, including non-governmental organizations, multilateral financial institutions, regional organizations and all actors of civil society. We will welcome and facilitate such support, as appropriate.

40th plenary meeting
24 October 1995

50/7. Mission of the United Nations in El Salvador

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions on the situation in Central America, in particular resolution 49/137 of 19 December 1994, in which, *inter alia*, it requested the Secretary-General to devise procedures for providing El Salvador with the necessary cooperation and assistance in the period after the United Nations Observer Mission in El Salvador, in order to safeguard peace and the strengthening and consolidation of national reconciliation, democracy and sustainable development,

Recalling also the letter dated 6 February 1995 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council[6] and the letter dated 17 February 1995 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General,[7]

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General of 6 October 1995 on the Mission of the United Nations in El Salvador,[8]

Recognizing with satisfaction the continuing evolution of El Salvador from a country torn by conflict into a democratic and peaceful nation,

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[6] *Official Records of the Security Council, Fiftieth Year, Supplement for January, February and March 1995*, document S/1995/143.

[7] Ibid., document S/1995/144.

[8] A/50/517.

Paying tribute to those Member States which contributed personnel and voluntary funding to the Mission,

1. *Welcomes* the continued commitment of the Government and people of El Salvador to the consolidation of the peace process;

2. *Pays tribute* to the accomplishments of the Mission of the United Nations in El Salvador, under the authority of the Secretary-General and his Special Representative;

3. *Recognizes* the political commitment of the Government of El Salvador and the other parties to the Chapultepec Agreement[9] to continue to work together in order to complete its implementation;

4. *Approves* the proposal by the Secretary-General to extend the Mission for a further period of six months, with a gradual reduction of its strength and costs, in a manner compatible with the efficient performance of its functions;

5. *Calls upon* Member States and international institutions to continue to provide assistance to the Government and people of El Salvador and to lend support to the efforts of the Mission for the purposes of peace-building and development;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report on the implementation of the present resolution.

45th plenary meeting
31 October 1995

50/9. Report of the International Atomic Energy Agency

The General Assembly,

Having received the report of the International Atomic Energy Agency to the General Assembly for the year 1994,[10]

Noting the statement of the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency of 1 November 1995,[11] in which he provided additional information on the main developments in the activities of the Agency during 1995,

Reaffirming that the Agency is the competent authority responsible for verifying and assuring, in accordance with the statute of the Agency and the Agency's safeguards system, compliance with its safeguards agreements with States parties undertaken in fulfilment of their obligations under article III, paragraph 1, of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[12] with a view to preventing diversion of nuclear energy from peaceful uses to nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices, and also reaffirming that nothing should be done to undermine the authority of the Agency in this regard and that States parties that have concerns regarding non-compliance with the safeguards agreement of the Treaty by the States parties should direct such concerns, along with supporting evidence and information, to the Agency to consider, investigate, draw conclusions and decide on necessary actions in accordance with its mandate,

Recognizing the importance of the work of the Agency in promoting the further application of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, as envisaged in its statute and in accordance with the inalienable right of States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and other relevant internationally legally binding agreements that have concluded relevant safeguards agreements with the Agency to develop research, production and use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes without discrimination and in conformity with articles I and II of the Treaty, with other relevant articles and with the objectives and purposes of the Treaty,

Also recognizing the special needs of the developing countries for technical assistance from the Agency and the importance of funding in order to benefit effectively from the transfer and application of nuclear technology for peaceful purposes as well as from the contribution of nuclear energy to their economic development,

Conscious of the importance of the work of the Agency in the implementation of the safeguards provisions of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and other international treaties, conventions and agreements designed to achieve similar objectives, as well as in ensuring, as far as it is able, that the assistance provided by the Agency or at its request or under its supervision or control is not used in such a way as to further any military purpose, as stated in article II of its statute,

Further recognizing the importance of the work of the Agency on nuclear power, applications of nuclear methods and techniques, nuclear safety, radiological protection and radioactive waste management, including its work directed towards assisting developing countries in all these fields,

Again stressing the need for the highest standards of safety in the design and operation of nuclear installations so as to minimize risks to life, health and the environment,

Taking note of the report of the Director General to the General Conference on the developments which took place in August 1995 related to Iraq's nuclear-weapons programme[13] and of resolution GC(39)/RES/5 of 22 September 1995 of the General Conference,[14]

Taking note also of resolutions GOV/2711 of 21 March 1994 and GOV/2742 of 10 June 1994 of the Board of Governors and GC(39)/RES/3 of 22 September 1995 of the General Conference in connection with the implementation of the Agreement between the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the International Atomic Energy Agency for the application of safeguards in connection with the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[15] the statements by the President of the Security Council of 31 March,[16] 30 May[17] and 4 November 1994,[18] and the authorization by the Board of Governors, on 11 November 1994, to the Director General to carry out all the tasks requested of the Agency in the statement by the President of the Security Council of 4 November 1994,

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[9] A/46/864-S/23501, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-seventh Year, Supplement for January, February and March 1991*, document S/23501.

[10] International Atomic Energy Agency, *The Annual Report for 1994* (Austria, July 1995) (GC(39)/3); transmitted to the members of the General Assembly by a note by the Secretary-General (A/50/360).

[11] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Plenary Meetings*, 46th meeting, and corrigendum.

[12] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

[13] GC(39)/10 and GC(39)/10/Add.1.

[14] See International Atomic Energy Agency, *Resolutions and Other Decisions of the General Conference, Thirty-ninth Regular Session*, 18-22 September 1995 (GC(39)/RES/DEC(1995)).

[15] International Atomic Energy Agency, INFCIRC/403.

[16] *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-ninth Year, Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1994*, document S/PRST/1994/13.

[17] Ibid., document S/PRST/1994/28.

[18] Ibid., document S/PRST/1994/64.

Bearing in mind resolutions GC(39)/RES/14 on the strengthening of the Agency's technical cooperation activities, GC(39)/RES/15 on a plan for producing potable water economically, GC(39)/RES/16 on extensive use of isotope hydrology for water resources management, GC(39)/RES/17 on strengthening the effectiveness and improving the efficiency of the safeguards system, GC(39)/RES/18 on measures against the illicit trafficking in nuclear materials, GC(39)/RES/4 on a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Africa, GC(39)/RES/5 on the implementation of Security Council resolutions 687 (1991), 707 (1991) and 715 (1991) relating to Iraq, GC(39)/RES/24 on application of Agency safeguards in the Middle East, GC(39)/RES/21 and GC(39)/RES/22 on the amendment of article VI of the statute relating to the membership of the Board of Governors, GC(39)/RES/13 on the Convention on Nuclear Safety, GC(39)/RES/19 on the staffing of the Agency's secretariat and GC(39)/RES/23 on nuclear testing, adopted on 22 September 1995 by the General Conference of the Agency at its thirty-ninth regular session,[6]

Also bearing in mind resolution GC(39)/RES/20 on women in the secretariat adopted on 22 September 1995 by the General Conference,[6] calling upon the Director General to examine the Platform for Action developed at the Fourth World Conference on Women and to integrate, where applicable, the elements of this Platform into the Agency's relevant policies and programmes,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the International Atomic Energy Agency;

2. *Affirms its confidence* in the role of the Agency in the application of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes;

3. *Welcomes* the measures and decisions taken by the Agency to maintain and strengthen the effectiveness and cost efficiency of the safeguards system in conformity with the Agency's statute, and calls upon States to cooperate in implementing the decisions taken by the Agency to that end;

4. *Urges* all States to strive for effective and harmonious international cooperation in carrying out the work of the Agency, pursuant to its statute; in promoting the use of nuclear energy and the application of the necessary measures to strengthen further the safety of nuclear installations and to minimize risks to life, health and the environment; in strengthening technical assistance and cooperation for developing countries; and in ensuring the effectiveness and efficiency of the safeguards system of the Agency;

5. *Welcomes also* the measures and decisions taken by the Agency to strengthen and fund its technical cooperation activities, and calls upon States to cooperate in implementing the measures and decisions pursuant thereto;

6. *Commends* the Director General and the secretariat of the Agency for their continuing impartial efforts to implement the safeguards agreement in force between the Agency and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, including their efforts to monitor the freeze of specified facilities in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea as requested by the Security Council, expresses concern over the continuing non-compliance of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea with the safeguards agreement, and urges the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to cooperate fully with the Agency in the implementation of the safeguards agreement and to take all steps the Agency may deem necessary to preserve, intact, all information relevant to verifying the accuracy and completeness of the initial report of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on the inventory of nuclear material subject to safeguards until the Democratic People's Republic of Korea comes into full compliance with its safeguards agreement;

7. *Also commends* the Director General of the Agency and his staff for their strenuous efforts in the implementation of Security Council resolutions 687 (1991) of 3 April, 707 (1991) of 15 August and 715 (1991) of 11 October 1991, expresses deep concern that Iraq has, since 1991, withheld from the Agency information about its nuclear-weapons programme in violation of its obligations under resolutions 687 (1991), 707 (1991) and 715 (1991), and stresses the need for Iraq to cooperate fully with the Agency in achieving the complete implementation of the relevant Security Council resolutions;

8. *Appeals* to all States to ratify or accede to the Convention on Nuclear Safety;

9. *Welcomes* the measures taken by the Agency in support of efforts to prevent illicit trafficking in nuclear materials and other radioactive sources;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit to the Director General of the Agency the records of the fiftieth session of the General Assembly relating to the activities of the Agency.

47th plenary meeting
1 November 1995

50/10. Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba

The General Assembly,

Determined to encourage strict compliance with the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming, among other principles, the sovereign equality of States, non-intervention and non-interference in their internal affairs and freedom of international trade and navigation, which are also enshrined in many international legal instruments,

Recalling the statements of the heads of State or Government at the Ibero-American Summits concerning the need to eliminate the unilateral application of economic and trade measures by one State against another which affect the free flow of international trade,

Taking note of Decision 360 adopted on 13 July 1995 by the Twenty-first Council of the Latin American Economic System, held at the ministerial level at San Salvador, which urged that the economic, commercial and financial embargo against Cuba be lifted,

Concerned about the continued promulgation and application by Member States of laws and regulations whose extraterritorial effects of which affect the sovereignty of other States and the legitimate interests of entities or persons under their jurisdiction, as well as the freedom of trade and navigation,

Recalling its resolutions 47/19 of 24 November 1992, 48/16 of 3 November 1993 and 49/9 of 26 October 1994,

Concerned that, since the adoption of its resolutions 47/19, 48/16 and 49/9, further measures of that nature aimed at strengthening and extending the economic, commercial and financial embargo against Cuba continue to be promulgated and applied, and concerned also about the adverse effects of such measures on the Cuban people and on Cuban nationals living in other countries,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General of 20 September 1995 on the implementation of resolution 49/9;[19]

2. *Reiterates its call* to all States to refrain from promulgating and applying laws and measures of the kind referred to in the preamble to the present resolution in conformity with their obligations under the Charter of the United Nations and international law which, *inter alia*, reaffirm the freedom of trade and navigation;

3. *Once again urges* States that have and continue to apply such laws and measures to take the necessary steps to repeal or invalidate them as soon as possible in accordance with their legal regime;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the appropriate organs and agencies of the United Nations system, to prepare a report on the implementation of the present resolution in the light of the purposes and principles of the Charter and international law, and to submit it to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session the item entitled "Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba".

48th plenary meeting
2 November 1995

50/11. Multilingualism

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 2 (I) of 1 February 1946, 2241 B (XXI) of 20 December 1966, 2292 (XXII) of 8 December 1967, 2359 B (XXII) of 19 December 1967, 2479 (XXIII) and 2480 B (XXIII) of 21 December 1968, 3189 (XXVIII), 3190 (XXVIII) and 3191 (XXVIII) of 18 December 1973 and 43/224 D of 21 December 1988,

Recalling also, on the occasion of the commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the signing of the Charter of the United Nations, that the universality of the United Nations and its corollary, multilingualism, entail for each State Member of the Organization, irrespective of the official language in which it expresses itself, the right and the duty to make itself understood and to understand others,

Stressing the need for strict observance of the resolutions and rules establishing language arrangements for the different bodies and organs of the United Nations,

Recalling further that Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish are both official and working languages of the General Assembly and its committees and subcommittees,[20] and of the Security Council,[21] that Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish are the official languages and English, French and Spanish the working languages of the Economic and Social Council,[22] and that English and French are the working languages of the Secretariat,[23]

Regretting that unequal use is made in the United Nations of the different official languages and of the working languages of the Secretariat, and desiring that persons recruited by the Organization should have a command of and use at least one of the six official languages in addition to one working language of the Secretariat,

Considering that the translation and interpretation budgets of United Nations bodies should be commensurate with the needs and should not be subject to budgetary constraints, as noted in resolution 42/207 C of 11 December 1987,

Noting that the principle of equality of the official languages is being called into question with increasing frequency by the holding of so-called "low-cost" informal meetings,

Emphasizing the need for the Organization to continue to promote the learning of all the official languages and the working languages of the Secretariat by members of missions accredited to the Organization and by Secretariat staff,

Emphasizing also the importance of providing access for all Governments and all sectors of civil society to the Organization's documentation, archives and data banks in all the official languages,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the strict implementation of the resolutions establishing language arrangements for both the official languages and the working languages of the Secretariat, and invites Member States to do likewise;

2. *Recalls* that the Secretariat is required, in its relations with Member States, to use the official or working language requested by those States;

3. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that appointment of the staff of the Organization is carried out strictly in accordance with the terms of Article 101 of the Charter and the regulations established by the General Assembly pursuant to that Article and that, upon recruitment, personnel recruited by the different bodies of the Organization have a command of and use at least one of the working languages of the Secretariat or one of the working languages of another body of the Organization, in the case of staff members who are to work for that body and whose tenure of appointment does not exceed two years, and requests him to ensure that the use of another of the six official languages is duly encouraged and taken into account, particularly when promotions and incremental steps are under consideration, in order to ensure linguistic balance within the Organization;

4. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to ensure, in particular in the recruitment and promotion of Secretariat staff, equality of the working languages of the Secretariat and of their use;

5. *Stresses* the need to ensure, in particular through the training and recruitment of specialists, that the necessary resources are available to guarantee the proper and timely translation of documents into the different official languages of the United Nations;

6. *Recalls* the need to ensure the simultaneous distribution of such documents in the official languages;

7. *Also stresses* the need to ensure adequate human and financial resources for maintaining the teaching, at all levels, of the official languages and the working languages of the Secretariat;

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[19] A/50/401.

[20] Rule 51 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly.

[21] Rule 41 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council.

[22] Rule 32 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council.

[23] See resolution 2 (I), annex, para. 1, of 1 February 1946.

8. *Further stresses* the importance of ensuring the availability of publications and adequate data banks in the different official languages in the libraries and documentation centres of the various bodies;

9. *Urges* the delegations of Member States and the Secretariat to endeavour to avoid holding informal meetings without interpretation;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit at its fifty-second session a report on the implementation of the present resolution and particularly on the use of the official languages of the United Nations and the working languages of the Secretariat.

49th plenary meeting
2 November 1995

50/12. Universal Congress on the Panama Canal

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 49/28 of 6 December 1994 on the law of the sea, 49/99 of 19 December 1994 on international trade and development and 49/131 of 19 December 1994 on the declaration of 1998 as International Year of the Ocean, and resolutions 2.5 of 16 November 1993,[24] adopted by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its twenty-seventh session, and 1994/48 of the Economic and Social Council of 29 July 1994, both on the International Year of the Ocean,

Bearing in mind that on 7 September 1977 Mr. Jimmy Carter, President of the United States of America, and General Omar Torrijos, Head of Government of the Republic of Panama, signed in Washington the Treaty concerning the Permanent Neutrality and Operation of the Panama Canal[25] and the Panama Canal Treaty,[26] known as the Torrijos-Carter treaties, which stipulate that, at noon on 31 December 1999, the Canal, including all improvements, is to come under the control of the Republic of Panama, which shall assume total responsibility for its management, operation and maintenance,

Emphasizing the significance of the Washington Declaration, signed on 7 September 1977 by the heads of State, heads of Government and representatives of the American republics, which recognizes "the importance for the hemisphere, for trade and for world shipping of the agreements designed to ensure the accessibility and continued neutrality of the Panama Canal",

Welcoming the plans of the Government of Panama to hold a Universal Congress on the Panama Canal in Panama City in September 1997, with the participation of Governments, international bodies, public and private academic institutions, maritime users and international shipping companies, to examine jointly the role which the Panama Canal should play in the twenty-first century,

Underlining the fact that the International Congress for Study of the Interocean Canal (Congrès international d'études du canal interocéanique) was convened by the Société de géographie de Paris, met from 15 to 29 May 1879 in the French capital, under the presidency of Count Ferdinand de Lesseps, builder of the Suez Canal, and culminated in the resolution that the canal should be built along the route traced between the Gulf of Limón on the Atlantic Ocean and the Bay of Panama on the Pacific Ocean,

Cognizant of the fact that, in keeping with the spirit of a new global alliance for sustainable development, it is necessary to formulate a balanced, integrated approach to environmental, trade and development issues,

Convinced, therefore, that the Universal Congress on the Panama Canal will promote international cooperation towards ensuring an orderly, sustainable development of the uses and resources of the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans and the rational exploitation and development of the Canal watershed and coastal areas, bearing in mind that Panama's coastline on the two oceans stretches for 2,988.3 kilometres in all, of which 1,700.6 kilometres are on the Pacific Ocean and 1,287.7 are on the Caribbean Sea,

Noting with appreciation the progress of the Tripartite Commission, consisting of the Republic of Panama, the United States of America and Japan, in the plans for the construction in the Isthmus of Panama of a sea-level canal or the enlargement of the present lock canal,

Reaffirming its resolution 31/142 of 17 December 1976, on the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the Amphictyonic Congress of Panama, in which it recalled that Simón Bolívar, the Liberator, referred on several occasions to the need for a possible opening of a canal in Panama, which "will shorten distances throughout the world, strengthen commercial ties" between the continents and promote the exchange of products "from the four corners of the globe",

Noting with satisfaction that by its resolution 49/131, 1998 was proclaimed International Year of the Ocean, during which year the Lisbon World Exposition is to be held,

Emphasizing that the Universal Congress on the Panama Canal has among its priority aims the promotion of international cooperation with a view to achieving an orderly, sustainable development of the uses and resources of the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans,

1. *Supports* the initiative of the Government of Panama in convening the Universal Congress on the Panama Canal, with the participation of Governments, international bodies, public and private academic institutions, maritime users and international shipping companies, to examine jointly the role which the Panama Canal should play in the twenty-first century;

2. *Requests* Member States to assist generously in this undertaking;

3. *Urges* the competent organs, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, in particular, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Environment Programme and the International Maritime Organization, to study the possibility of providing assistance from within existing resources for the organization of the Universal Congress on the Panama Canal;

4. *Emphasizes* the importance of the Universal Congress on the Panama Canal and expresses the hope that its results will contribute to the growth of world trade and to sustained economic growth and sustainable development throughout the world;

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[24] See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Twenty-seventh Session, Paris, 25 October to 16 November 1993*, Vol. 1, *Resolutions*, sect. III.2.

[25] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1161, No. 18342.

[26] Ibid., vol. 1280, No. 21086.

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session the item entitled "Universal Congress on the Panama Canal".

52nd plenary meeting
7 November 1995

50/13. The Olympic Ideal

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 49/29 of 7 December 1994, in which it requested the Secretary-General to encourage ministers of youth and sport or concerned officials of Member States to participate in the consideration by the General Assembly at its fiftieth session of an item entitled "Building a peaceful and better world through sport and the Olympic Ideal" on the eve of the centenary of the revival of the Olympic Games in 1896 at Athens, on the initiative of a French educator, Baron Pierre de Coubertin, and called upon Member States to reaffirm during the fiftieth session of the Assembly the observance of the Olympic Truce, during the next Summer Olympic Games,

Recalling also its resolution 48/11 of 25 October 1993, which, *inter alia*, revived the ancient Greek tradition of *ekecheria* or "Olympic Truce", calling for all hostilities to cease during the Games, thereby mobilizing the youth of the world in the cause of peace,

Taking into account resolution CM/Res.28 (LXII), adopted by the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity at its sixty-second ordinary session, held at Addis Ababa from 21 to 23 June 1995, and endorsed by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of that organization, which supports the appeal for an Olympic Truce,

Reaffirming that the Olympic Ideal promotes international understanding, particularly among the youth of the world, through sport and culture in order to advance the harmonious development of humankind,

Noting with satisfaction the increasing number of joint endeavours of the International Olympic Committee and the United Nations system, such as recent meetings on "Sport against drugs" with the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, "Sport and the environment" with the United Nations Environment Programme, "Sport for all and health for all" with the World Health Organization and "Forum on physical activity and sport" with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,

1. *Calls upon* Member States to reaffirm the observance of an Olympic Truce during the Games of the XXVI Olympiad, the Centennial Games, to be held at Atlanta, United States of America, from 19 July to 4 August 1996, and also calls upon them to reaffirm the observance of the Olympic Truce in advance of each Summer and Winter Olympic Games;

2. *Commends* the International Olympic Committee, now in its one-hundred-and-first year, for promoting international understanding and equality among nations and thereby serving the cause of peace and the well-being of humankind by providing assistance for the development of sport and the Olympic Ideal;

3. *Welcomes* the participation of ministers of youth and sport and concerned officials and the presence of the President of the International Olympic Committee in its consideration of the item entitled "Building a peaceful and better world through sport and the Olympic Ideal" at its fiftieth session;

4. *Suggests* that national ministries of youth and sport consider collaborating with the Olympic Movement, in the spirit of Olympic ethics and fair play, on preventive education programmes such as anti-doping programmes, drug abuse prevention, environmental protection and enhancing the participation of women in all aspects of the sport movement;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to cooperate with the International Olympic Committee in joint endeavours for the promotion of peace, equality among nations and the harmonious development of humankind;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-second session the item entitled "Building a peaceful and better world through sport and the Olympic Ideal" and to biennialize this item so that it will be considered in advance of each Summer and Winter Olympic Games.

52nd plenary meeting
7 November 1995

50/14. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Latin American Economic System

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 49/6 of 21 October 1994 on cooperation between the United Nations and the Latin American Economic System,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General of 18 September 1995 on cooperation between the United Nations and the Latin American Economic System,[27]

Bearing in mind the Agreement between the United Nations and the Latin American Economic System, in which the parties agree to strengthen and expand their cooperation in matters which are of common concern in the field of their respective competence pursuant to their constitutional instruments,

Considering that the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean has developed ties of cooperation with the Latin American Economic System which have grown stronger in recent years,

Bearing in mind also that the Permanent Secretariat of the Latin American Economic System has carried out several programmes with the support of the United Nations Development Programme in areas that are considered of priority for the economic development of the region,

Considering also that the Latin American Economic System is developing joint activities with the specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system, such as the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the World Meteorological Organization, the World Health Organization, the World Intellectual Property Organization, the United Nations Environment Programme, the Department for Economic and Social Information and Policy Analysis of the Secretariat, the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Coordinator, the United Nations Institute for Training and Research and the International Telecommunication Union,

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[27] A/50/438.

Welcoming the continued monitoring of changes in the treatment of topics relating to the United Nations system, in close contact with the delegations of the Member States participating in such deliberations,

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report of the Secretary-General;

2. *Urges* the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean to continue broadening and deepening its coordination and mutual support activities with the Latin American Economic System;

3. *Urges* the United Nations Development Programme to strengthen and expand its support to the programmes that the Permanent Secretariat of the Latin American Economic System is carrying out, aimed at complementing the technical assistance activities conducted by the Latin American Economic System;

4. *Urges* the specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system to continue and intensify their support for, and cooperation in the activities of, the Latin American Economic System;

5. *Requests* both the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Permanent Secretary of the Latin American Economic System to assess, at the appropriate time, the implementation of the Agreement between the United Nations and the Latin American Economic System and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

60th plenary meeting
15 November 1995

50/15. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Inter-Parliamentary Union

The General Assembly,

Noting that national parliaments work together at the international level through the Inter-Parliamentary Union, their world organization, which shares the principles and objectives of the United Nations,

Considering that the activities of the Inter-Parliamentary Union complement and support the work of the United Nations,

Desirous of strengthening existing cooperation between the United Nations and the Inter-Parliamentary Union and of giving it a new and adequate framework,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary steps to conclude an agreement on cooperation between the two organizations which should make provision for consultations, appropriate representation and cooperation, in general as well as in specific fields, and to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session on this matter;

2. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Inter-Parliamentary Union".

61st plenary meeting
15 November 1995

50/16. Cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions on the promotion of cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General of 3 October 1995 on cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States,[28]

Recalling also the decision of the Council of the League of Arab States that it considers the League a regional organization within the meaning of Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations,

Noting the desire of both organizations to consolidate, develop and enhance further the ties existing between them in the political, economic, social, humanitarian, cultural and administrative fields,

Taking into account the report of the Secretary-General entitled "An Agenda for Peace",[29] in particular section VII, concerning cooperation with regional arrangements and organizations, and the "Supplement to An Agenda for Peace",[30]

Convinced that the maintenance and further strengthening of cooperation between the United Nations system and the League of Arab States contribute to the promotion of the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Convinced also of the need for more efficient and coordinated utilization of available economic and financial resources to promote common objectives of the two organizations,

Recognizing the need for closer cooperation between the United Nations system and the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations in realizing the goals and objectives of both organizations,

Welcoming the results of the general meeting on cooperation between the representatives of the secretariats of the United Nations system and the General Secretariat of the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations, held at Vienna from 19 to 21 July 1995, on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of both the United Nations and the League of Arab States,

Welcoming also the meeting on peace held at United Nations Headquarters on 1 August 1994 between the Secretary-General and heads of regional organizations,

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report of the Secretary-General;[1]

2. *Commends* the continued efforts of the League of Arab States to promote multilateral cooperation among Arab States, and requests the United Nations system to continue to lend its support;

3. *Takes note* of the conclusions and recommendations adopted at the general meeting on cooperation between the representatives of the secretariats of the United Nations system and the General Secretariat of the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations, held at Vienna, contained in the final document which has been transmitted

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[28] A/50/496.

[29] A/47/277-S/24111; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-seventh Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1992*, document S/24111.

[30] A/50/60-S/1995/1; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fiftieth Year, Supplement for January, February and March 1995*, document S/1995/1.

by the United Nations Secretariat to all participating United Nations organizations and the General Secretariat of the League of Arab States;

4. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for the follow-up action taken by him to implement the proposals adopted at the meetings between the representatives of the secretariats of the United Nations and other organizations of the United Nations system and the General Secretariat of the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations, including most recently the meeting held at Vienna in 1995;

5. *Requests* the Secretariat of the United Nations and the General Secretariat of the League of Arab States, within their respective fields of competence, to intensify further their cooperation towards the realization of the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, the strengthening of international peace and security, economic development, disarmament, decolonization, self-determination and the eradication of all forms of racism and racial discrimination;

6. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for his initiative in meeting with heads of regional organizations on 1 August 1994, and looks forward to seeing such meetings organized again;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to strengthen cooperation and coordination between the United Nations and other organizations and agencies of the United Nations system and the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations in order to enhance their capacity to serve the mutual interests of the two organizations in the political, economic, social, humanitarian, cultural and administrative fields;

8. *Calls upon* the specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system:

(*a*) To continue to cooperate with the Secretary-General and among themselves, as well as with the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations, in the follow-up of multilateral proposals aimed at strengthening and expanding cooperation in all fields between the United Nations system and the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations;

(*b*) To maintain and increase contacts and improve the mechanism of consultation with the counterpart programmes, organizations and agencies concerned regarding projects and programmes, in order to facilitate their implementation;

(*c*) To associate whenever possible with organizations and institutions of the League of Arab States in the execution and implementation of development projects in the Arab region;

(*d*) To inform the Secretary-General, not later than 15 May 1996, of the progress of their cooperation with the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations, in particular the follow-up action taken on the multilateral and bilateral proposals adopted at the previous meetings between the two organizations;

9. *Also calls upon* the specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system to intensify cooperation with the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations in the following priority sectors, namely, energy, rural development, desertification and green belts, training and vocational training, technology, environment, and information and documentation;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in cooperation with the Secretary-General of the League of Arab States, to encourage periodic consultation between representatives of the Secretariat of the United Nations and the General Secretariat of the League of Arab States to review and strengthen coordination mechanisms with a view to accelerating implementation and follow-up action of multilateral projects, proposals and recommendations adopted at the meetings between the two organizations;

11. *Decides* that, in order to enhance cooperation and for the purpose of review and appraisal of progress, a general meeting between the United Nations system and the League of Arab States should take place once every two years, and inter-agency sectoral meetings should be organized regularly on areas of priority and wide importance in the development of the Arab States, on the basis of agreement between the counterpart programmes of the United Nations system and the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations;

12. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session a progress report on the implementation of the present resolution;

13. *Also decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States".

67th plenary meeting
20 November 1995

50/17. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 37/4 of 22 October 1982, 38/4 of 28 October 1983, 39/7 of 8 November 1984, 40/4 of 25 October 1985, 41/3 of 16 October 1986, 42/4 of 15 October 1987, 43/2 of 17 October 1988, 44/8 of 18 October 1989, 45/9 of 25 October 1990, 46/13 of 28 October 1991, 47/18 of 23 November 1992, 48/24 of 24 November 1993 and 49/15 of 15 November 1994,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General of 17 October 1995 on cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference,[31]

Taking into account the desire of both organizations to cooperate more closely in the political, economic, social, humanitarian, cultural and technical fields and in their common search for solutions to global problems, such as questions relating to international peace and security, disarmament, self-determination, decolonization, fundamental human rights and economic and technical development,

Recalling also the Articles of the Charter of the United Nations that encourage the activities through regional cooperation for the promotion of the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Noting the strengthening of cooperation between the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and the Organization of the Islamic Conference and its specialized institutions,

Noting also the encouraging progress made in the nine priority areas of cooperation, as well as in the identification of other areas of cooperation,

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[31] A/50/573.

Convinced that the strengthening of cooperation between the United Nations and other organizations of the United Nations system and the Organization of the Islamic Conference contributes to the promotion of the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Taking into account the report of the Secretary-General entitled "An Agenda for Peace",[29] in particular section VII, concerning cooperation with regional arrangements and organizations, and the "Supplement to An Agenda for Peace",[30]

Noting with appreciation the determination of both organizations to strengthen further the existing cooperation by developing specific proposals in the designated priority areas of cooperation, as well as in the political field,

Welcoming the results of the coordination meeting of focal points of the organizations and agencies of the United Nations system and the Organization of the Islamic Conference and its specialized institutions, held at Geneva from 19 to 21 June 1995,

Welcoming also the meeting held at United Nations Headquarters on 1 August 1994 between the Secretary-General and heads of the regional and other organizations, including the Secretary-General of the Organization of the Islamic Conference,

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report of the Secretary-General;[31]

2. *Takes note* of the conclusions and recommendations adopted by the coordination meeting of focal points of the organizations and agencies of the United Nations system and the Organization of the Islamic Conference and its specialized institutions;

3. *Notes with satisfaction* the active participation of the Organization of the Islamic Conference in the work of the United Nations towards the realization of the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations;

4. *Requests* the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference to continue cooperation in their common search for solutions to global problems, such as questions relating to international peace and security, disarmament, self-determination, decolonization, fundamental human rights, social and economic development and technical cooperation;

5. *Welcomes* the proposals of the coordination meeting of focal points of the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference to strengthen cooperation between the two organizations in a number of different areas and to review the ways and means for enhancing the actual mechanisms of such cooperation;

6. *Welcomes also* the efforts of the secretariats of the two organizations to strengthen cooperation between them in the political field and to undertake consultations with a view to defining the mechanisms of such cooperation;

7. *Welcomes further* the periodic high-level meetings between the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Secretary-General of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, as well as between senior secretariat officials of the two organizations;

8. *Encourages* the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to continue to expand their cooperation with the Organization of the Islamic Conference, particularly by negotiating cooperation agreements, and invites them to multiply the contacts and meetings of the focal points for cooperation in priority areas of interest to the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference;

9. *Urges* the organizations of the United Nations system, especially the lead agencies, to provide increased technical and other forms of assistance to the Organization of the Islamic Conference and its specialized institutions in order to enhance cooperation;

10. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for his continued efforts to strengthen cooperation and coordination between the United Nations and other organizations of the United Nations system and the Organization of the Islamic Conference and its specialized institutions to serve the mutual interests of the two organizations in the political, economic, social and cultural fields;

11. *Also expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for his initiative to convene a meeting of heads of regional organizations on 1 August 1994, and looks forward to similar meetings in the future;

12. *Recommends* that, in order to enhance cooperation and for the purpose of review and appraisal of progress, a general meeting between representatives of the secretariats of the United Nations system and the Organization of the Islamic Conference and its specialized institutions should take place in 1996, and every two years thereafter;

13. *Also recommends* that coordination meetings of focal points of the organizations and agencies of the United Nations system and the Organization of the Islamic Conference and its specialized institutions should henceforth be held concurrently with the general meeting;

14. *Expresses its appreciation* for the efforts of the Secretary-General in the promotion of cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference, and expresses the hope that he will continue to strengthen the mechanisms of coordination between the two organizations;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session on the state of cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference;

16. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference".

67th plenary meeting
20 November 1995

50/18. Zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 41/11 of 27 October 1986, in which it solemnly declared the Atlantic Ocean, in the region between Africa and South America, the "Zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic",

Recalling also its subsequent resolutions on the matter, including resolution 45/36 of 27 November 1990, in which it reaffirmed the determination of the States of the zone to enhance and accelerate their cooperation in the political, economic, scientific, cultural and other spheres,

Reaffirming that the questions of peace and security and those of development are interrelated and inseparable, and that cooperation for peace and development among States of the region will promote the objectives of the zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic,

Aware of the importance that the States of the zone attach to the region's environment, and recognizing the threat that pollution from any source poses to the marine and coastal environment, its ecological balance and its resources,

1. *Reaffirms* the importance of the purposes and objectives of the zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic as a basis for the promotion of cooperation among the countries of the region;

2. *Calls upon* all States to cooperate in the promotion of the objectives established in the declaration of the zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic and to refrain from any action inconsistent with those objectives and with the Charter of the United Nations and relevant resolutions of the Organization, particularly action which may create or aggravate situations of tension and potential conflict in the region;

3. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General of 24 October 1995,[32] submitted in accordance with its resolution 49/26 of 2 December 1994;

4. *Recalls* the agreement reached at the third meeting of the States members of the zone, held at Brasilia in 1994, to encourage democracy and political pluralism and, in accordance with the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[33] to promote and defend all human rights and fundamental freedoms and to cooperate towards the achievement of those goals;

5. *Welcomes* the progress towards the full entry into force of the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco),[34] and the conclusion of a treaty on a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Africa;

6. *Expresses its appreciation* for the efforts of the international community, in accordance with Security Council resolution 976 (1995) of 8 February 1995, aimed at contributing to an effective and lasting peace in Angola on the basis of the "Acordos de Bicesse"[35] and the Lusaka Protocol;[36]

7. *Also welcomes* recent positive developments in the situation of Liberia, including progress towards peace and national reconciliation in accordance with the Abuja Agreement[37] to supplement the Cotonou[38] and Akosombo[39] Agreements as subsequently clarified by the Accra Agreement;[40]

8. *Commends* the efforts of Member States and humanitarian organizations to render humanitarian assistance to Angola and Liberia, and urges them to continue to provide and to increase such assistance;

9. *Affirms* the importance of the South Atlantic to global maritime and commercial transactions and its determination to preserve the region for all activities protected by international law, as reflected in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea;[41]

10. *Further welcomes* the offer by South Africa to host at Cape Town, on 1 and 2 April 1996, the fourth meeting of the States members of the zone;

11. *Requests* the relevant organizations, organs and bodies of the United Nations system to render all appropriate assistance which States of the zone may seek in their joint efforts to implement the declaration of the zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep the implementation of resolution 41/11 and subsequent resolutions on the matter under review and to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session, taking into account, *inter alia*, the views expressed by Member States;

13. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session the item entitled "Zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic".

69th plenary meeting
27 November 1995

50/19. Participation of volunteers, "White Helmets", in activities of the United Nations in the field of humanitarian relief, rehabilitation and technical cooperation for development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 49/139 B of 20 December 1994,

Reaffirming also its resolutions 46/182 of 19 December 1991, in particular the guiding principles on humanitarian assistance embodied in the annex thereto, 47/168 of 22 December 1992 and 48/57 of 14 December 1993,

Recalling Economic and Social Council decision 1993/205 of 12 February 1993 and the agreed conclusions of the coordination segment of the Council of 1993,[42] and Council resolution 1995/44 of 27 July 1995,

Recognizing, in the light of the increasing number and growing magnitude and complexity of natural disasters and other emergencies, the need to utilize fully the national potential of countries in providing the United Nations system, on a stand-by basis, with support for its activities in the area of humanitarian emergency assistance, as well as in the promotion of a smooth transition from relief to rehabilitation, reconstruction and development, which should contribute to more coordinated responses in these fields,

1. *Takes note with interest* of the report of the Secretary-General[43] and the note by the Secretariat,[44] prepared in pursuance of Economic and Social Council resolution 1995/44, on the participation of volunteers, "White Helmets", in activities of the United Nations in the field of

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[32] A/50/671.

[33] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[34] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 634, No. 9068.

[35] *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-sixth Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1991*, document S/22609.

[36] Ibid., *Forty-ninth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1994*, document S/1994/1441.

[37] Ibid., *Fiftieth Year, Supplement for July, August and September 1995*, document S/1995/742.

[38] Ibid., *Forty-eighth Year, Supplement for July, August and September 1993*, document S/26272.

[39] Ibid., *Forty-ninth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1994*, document S/1994/1174.

[40] Ibid., *Fiftieth Year, Supplement for January, February and March 1995*, document S/1995/7.

[41] *Official Records of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea*, vol. XVII (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.84.V.3), document A/CONF.62/122.

[42] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/48/3/Rev.1), chap. III.

[43] A/50/203/Add.1-E/1995/79/Add.1.

[44] A/50/542.

humanitarian relief, rehabilitation and technical cooperation for development, as well as of the initial projects undertaken in the implementation of resolution 49/139 B;

2. *Commends* the activities and experiences of the United Nations Volunteers, including the White Helmets, deployed in the context of the implementation of resolution 49/139 B, as well as other experiences developed to improve, in accordance with resolutions 46/182 and 49/139 B, the capability for a quick and coordinated response to natural disasters and other emergencies, while preserving the non-political, neutral and impartial character of humanitarian action;

3. *Encourages* voluntary national and regional actions aimed at making available to the United Nations system, through the United Nations Volunteers, national volunteer corps such as the White Helmets on a stand-by basis, in accordance with accepted United Nations procedures and practices, in order to provide specialized human and technical resources for emergency relief and rehabilitation, and in this regard notes with satisfaction the establishment, in particular in developing countries, of national volunteer corps such as the White Helmets;

4. *Encourages also* the Department of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat, as part of its function of coordination of humanitarian assistance, and the relevant bodies of the United Nations, in accordance with their respective mandates, to make use of the White Helmets and other United Nations volunteers in the area of humanitarian emergency assistance, as well as to support a smooth transition from relief to rehabilitation, reconstruction and development;

5. *Recognizes*, in this context, the operational role of the United Nations Volunteers in the selection, training, deployment and effective utilization of the White Helmets at the field level;

6. *Calls upon* countries in a position to do so to contribute to the distinct window created to this end, in accordance with paragraph 6 (*b*) of resolution 49/139 B, within the Special Voluntary Fund of the United Nations Volunteers;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session, in the context of the cluster of issues related to the item "Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance", on the technical, institutional and financial viability of the initiative.

72nd plenary meeting
28 November 1995

50/21. Middle East peace process

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 49/88 of 16 December 1994 and Economic and Social Council resolution 1995/52 of 28 July 1995,

Stressing that the achievement of a comprehensive, just and lasting settlement of the Middle East conflict will constitute a significant contribution to strengthening international peace and security,

Recalling the convening of the Peace Conference on the Middle East at Madrid on 30 October 1991, on the basis of Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967 and 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973, and the subsequent bilateral negotiations, as well as the meetings of the multilateral working groups, and noting with satisfaction the broad international support for the peace process,

Noting the continuing positive participation of the United Nations as a full extraregional participant in the work of the multilateral working groups,

Bearing in mind the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements, signed by the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people, in Washington on 13 September 1993,[45] and the subsequent Agreement on the Gaza Strip and the Jericho Area, signed by the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization at Cairo on 4 May 1994,[46] their 29 August 1994 Agreement on the Preparatory Transfer of Powers and Responsibilities, the Protocol on Further Transfer of Powers and Responsibilities signed by the Government of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization at Cairo on 27 August 1995, and the Interim Agreement on the West Bank and Gaza Strip, signed by the Government of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization in Washington on 28 September 1995,

Also bearing in mind the Agreement between Israel and Jordan on the Common Agenda, signed in Washington on 14 September 1993, the Washington Declaration, signed by Jordan and Israel on 25 July 1994,[47] and the Treaty of Peace between the State of Israel and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, of 26 October 1994,[48]

Welcoming the Declaration of the Middle East/North Africa Economic Summit held at Casablanca from 30 October to 1 November 1994,[49] as well as the Declaration of the Middle East/North Africa Economic Summit held at Amman from 29 to 31 October 1995,

1. *Welcomes* the peace process started at Madrid, and supports the subsequent bilateral negotiations;

2. *Stresses* the importance of, and need for, achieving a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East;

3. *Expresses its full support* for the achievements of the peace process thus far, in particular the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements, signed by the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian People, the subsequent Agreement on the Gaza Strip and the Jericho Area, signed by the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, their 29 August 1994 Agreement on the Preparatory Transfer of Powers and Responsibilities, the Protocol on Further Transfer of Powers and Responsibilities signed by the Government of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization at Cairo on 27 August 1995, the Interim Agreement on the West Bank and Gaza Strip, signed by the Government of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization

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[45] A/48/486-S/26560, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-eighth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1993*, document S/26560.

[46] A/49/180-S/1994/727, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-ninth Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1994*, document S/1994/727.

[47] A/49/300-S/1994/939, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-ninth Year, Supplement for July, August and September 1994*, document S/1994/939.

[48] A/50/73-S/1995/83, enclosure; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fiftieth Year, Supplement for January, February and March 1995*, document S/1995/83.

[49] A/49/645, annex.

in Washington on 28 September 1995, the Agreement between Israel and Jordan on the Common Agenda, the Washington Declaration, signed by Jordan and Israel on 25 July 1994, and the Treaty of Peace between the State of Israel and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, of 26 October 1994, which constitute important steps in achieving a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East, and urges all parties to implement the agreements reached;

4. *Stresses* the need to achieve rapid progress on the other tracks of the Arab-Israeli negotiations within the peace process;

5. *Welcomes* the results of the Conference to Support Middle East Peace, convened in Washington on 1 October 1993, including the establishment of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee, and the subsequent work of the World Bank Consultative Group, welcomes also the appointment by the Secretary-General of the "United Nations Special Coordinator in the Occupied Territories", and urges Member States to expedite economic, financial and technical assistance to the Palestinian people during the interim period;

6. *Calls upon* all Member States to extend economic, financial and technical assistance to parties in the region and to render support for the peace process;

7. *Considers* that an active United Nations role in the Middle East peace process and in assisting in the implementation of the Declaration of Principles can make a positive contribution;

8. *Encourages* regional development and cooperation in areas where work has begun within the framework of the Madrid Conference.

79th plenary meeting
4 December 1995

50/22. The situation in the Middle East

A

JERUSALEM

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 36/120 E of 10 December 1981, 37/123 C of 16 December 1982, 38/180 C of 19 December 1983, 39/146 C of 14 December 1984, 40/168 C of 16 December 1985, 41/162 C of 4 December 1986, 42/209 D of 11 December 1987, 43/54 C of 6 December 1988, 44/40 C of 4 December 1989, 45/83 C of 13 December 1990, 46/82 B of 16 December 1991, 47/63 B of 11 December 1992, 48/59 A of 14 December 1993 and 49/87 A of 16 December 1994, in which it determined that all legislative and administrative measures and actions taken by Israel, the occupying Power, which had altered or purported to alter the character and status of the Holy City of Jerusalem, in particular the so-called "Basic Law" on Jerusalem and the proclamation of Jerusalem as the capital of Israel, were null and void and must be rescinded forthwith,

Recalling also Security Council resolution 478 (1980) of 20 August 1980, in which the Council, *inter alia*, decided not to recognize the "Basic Law" and called upon those States that had established diplomatic missions at Jerusalem to withdraw such missions from the Holy City,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General of 24 October 1995,[50]

1. *Determines* that the decision of Israel to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the Holy City of Jerusalem is illegal and therefore null and void and has no validity whatsoever;

2. *Deplores* the transfer by some States of their diplomatic missions to Jerusalem in violation of Security Council resolution 478 (1980), and their refusal to comply with the provisions of that resolution;

3. *Calls once more upon* those States to abide by the provisions of the relevant United Nations resolutions, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session on the implementation of the present resolution.

79th plenary meeting
4 December 1995

B

THE SYRIAN GOLAN

The General Assembly,

Having considered the item entitled "The situation in the Middle East",

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General of 24 October 1995,[50]

Recalling Security Council resolution 497 (1981) of 17 December 1981,

Reaffirming the fundamental principle of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force,

Reaffirming once more the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[51] to the occupied Syrian Golan,

Deeply concerned that Israel has not withdrawn from the Syrian Golan, which has been under occupation since 1967, contrary to the relevant Security Council and General Assembly resolutions,

Noting with satisfaction the convening at Madrid of the Peace Conference on the Middle East on the basis of Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967 and 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973, with the hope that substantial and concrete progress will be achieved on the Syrian and Lebanese tracks for the realization of a just, comprehensive and lasting peace in the region,

1. *Declares* that Israel has failed so far to comply with Security Council resolution 497 (1981);

2. *Declares also* that the Knesset decision of 11 November 1991 annexing the occupied Syrian Golan constitutes a grave violation of resolution 497 (1981) and therefore is null and void and has no validity whatsoever, and calls upon Israel to rescind it;

3. *Reaffirms its determination* that all relevant provisions of the Regulations annexed to the Hague Convention of 1907,[52] and the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, continue to apply to the Syrian territory occupied by Israel since 1967, and calls upon the parties thereto to respect and ensure respect for their obligations under those instruments in all circumstances;

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[50] A/50/574.

[51] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

[52] See Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, *The Hague Conventions and Declarations of 1899 and 1907* (New York, Oxford University Press, 1915).

4. *Determines once more* that the continued occupation of the Syrian Golan and its de facto annexation constitute a stumbling-block in the way of achieving a just, comprehensive and lasting peace in the region;

5. *Demands once more* that Israel withdraw from all the occupied Syrian Golan to the line of 4 June 1967 in implementation of the relevant Security Council resolutions;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session on the implementation of the present resolution.

79th plenary meeting
4 December 1995

50/23. Law of the sea

The General Assembly,

Emphasizing the universal character of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea[41] and its fundamental importance for the maintenance and strengthening of international peace and security, as well as for the sustainable use and development of the seas and oceans and their resources,

Considering that, in its resolution 2749 (XXV) of 17 December 1970, it proclaimed that the seabed and ocean floor, and the subsoil thereof, beyond the limits of national jurisdiction (hereinafter referred to as "the Area"), as well as the resources of the Area, are the common heritage of mankind, and considering also that the Convention, together with the Agreement relating to the implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982,[53] provides the regime to be applied to the Area and its resources,

Recalling its resolution 49/28 of 6 December 1994 on the law of the sea, adopted consequent to the entry into force of the Convention on 16 November 1994,

Aware of the importance of the effective implementation of the Convention and its uniform and consistent application, as well as of the growing need to promote and facilitate international cooperation on the law of the sea and ocean affairs at the global, regional and subregional levels,

Conscious of the strategic importance of the Convention as a framework for national, regional and global action in the marine sector, as recognized also by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in chapter 17 of Agenda 21,[54]

Recognizing the impact on States of the entry into force of the Convention and the increasing need, particularly of developing States, for advice and assistance in its implementation in order to benefit thereunder,

Noting the responsibilities of the Secretary-General and competent international organizations under the Convention, in particular pursuant to its entry into force and as required by resolution 49/28,

Reaffirming the importance of the annual consideration and review by the General Assembly of the overall developments pertaining to the implementation of the Convention, as well as of other developments relating to the law of the sea and ocean affairs,

Noting the decisions taken by States parties to the Convention to convene meetings of States parties to deal with the initial budget and organizational and other related matters of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea in preparation for its establishment and the election of its members,[55] as well as to prepare for and organize the election of the members of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf,

Noting also that the Assembly of the International Seabed Authority has concluded its first session and has scheduled two meetings of the Authority for 1996, from 11 March for up to three weeks, if necessary, and from 5 August for up to two weeks, in Kingston,[56]

Noting further that the Assembly of the Authority requested arrangements for the interim secretariat of the Authority, authorizing the Secretary-General to administer the interim secretariat until the Secretary-General of the Authority is able to assume effectively the responsibility of the Authority's secretariat,[57]

Recalling that the Agreement relating to the implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 provides that the institutions established by the Convention shall be cost-effective,[58] and recalling also that the meeting of States parties to the Convention decided that this principle would apply to all aspects of the work of the Tribunal,[59]

Emphasizing the importance of making adequate provisions for the efficient functioning of the institutions established by the Convention,

1. *Calls upon* all States that have not done so to become parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and to ratify, confirm formally or accede to the Agreement relating to the implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 in order to achieve the goal of universal participation;

2. *Calls upon* States to harmonize their national legislation with the provisions of the Convention and to ensure the consistent application of those provisions;

3. *Reaffirms* the unified character of the Convention;

4. *Recalls* its decision to fund the budget for the administrative expenses of the International Seabed Authority initially from the regular budget of the United Nations, in accordance with the provisions of the Agreement;[60]

5. *Approves* the provision by the Secretary-General of such services as may be required for the two meetings of the Authority to be held in 1996, from 11 to 22 March and from 5 to 16 August;

6. *Approves also* the request of the Assembly of the Authority to continue the staff and facilities previously available to the Kingston Office for the Law of the Sea as the interim secretariat of the Authority, and authorizes the Secretary-General to administer the interim secretariat un-

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[53] Resolution 48/263, annex.

[54] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992* (A/CONF.151/26/Rev.1 (Vol. I and Vol. I/Corr.1, Vol. II, Vol. III and Vol. III/Corr.1)) (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

[55] See SPLOS/4, para. 38.

[56] See ISBA/A/L.7/Rev.1, para. 35.

[57] See ISBA/A/L.5 and ISBA/A/L.7/Rev.1, para. 33.

[58] See resolution 48/263, annex: Annex to the Agreement, sect. 1, para. 2.

[59] See SPLOS/4, para. 25 (*e*).

[60] See resolution 48/263, para. 8; and ibid., annex: Annex to the Agreement, sect. 1, para. 14.

til the Secretary-General of the Authority is able to assume effectively the responsibility of the Authority's secretariat;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to convene the meetings of States parties to the Convention from 4 to 8 March, from 6 to 10 May and from 29 July to 2 August 1996;

8. *Notes with appreciation* the progress made in practical arrangements for the establishment of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea and in preparations for the establishment of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf;

9. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for the annual comprehensive report on the law of the sea[61] and the activities of the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea of the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat, in accordance with the provisions of the Convention and the mandate set forth in resolution 49/28;

10. *Reaffirms* the importance of ensuring the uniform and consistent application of the Convention and a coordinated approach to its effective implementation, and of strengthening technical cooperation and financial assistance for this purpose, stresses once again the continuing importance of the Secretary-General's efforts to these ends, and reiterates its invitation to the competent international organizations and other international bodies to support these objectives;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the institutional capacity of the Organization adequately responds to the needs of States and competent international organizations by providing advice and assistance, taking into account the special needs of developing countries;

12. *Invites* Member States and others in a position to do so to contribute to the further development of the fellowship programme on the law of the sea and training and educational activities on the law of the sea and ocean affairs established by the Assembly in its resolution 35/116 of 10 December 1980, and advisory services in support of effective implementation of the Convention;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Assembly at its fifty-first session on the implementation of the present resolution, in connection with his annual comprehensive report on the law of the sea;

14. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session the item entitled "Law of the sea".

81st plenary meeting
5 December 1995

50/24. Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 47/192 of 22 December 1992, 48/194 of 21 December 1993 and 49/121 of 19 December 1994, concerning the United Nations Conference on Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks,

Taking note of resolutions I and II adopted by the Conference,[62]

Recognizing the importance of the regular consideration and review of developments relating to the conservation and management of straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks,

Taking note also of the report of the Secretary-General of 12 October 1995 on the work of the Conference,[63]

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the United Nations Conference on Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks for discharging its mandate under resolution 47/192 with the adoption of the Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks;[64]

2. *Welcomes* the opening for signature of the Agreement on 4 December 1995;

3. *Emphasizes* the importance of the early entry into force and effective implementation of the Agreement;

4. *Calls upon* all States and the other entities referred to in article 1, paragraph 2 (*b*), of the Agreement that have not done so to sign and ratify or accede to it and to consider applying it provisionally;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly on developments relating to the conservation and management of straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks at its fifty-first session and biennially thereafter, taking into account information provided by States, relevant specialized agencies, in particular the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, and other appropriate organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system, regional and subregional organizations and arrangements for the conservation and management of straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks, as well as other relevant intergovernmental bodies and non-governmental organizations;

6. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that reporting on all major fisheries-related activities and instruments is effectively coordinated and duplication of activities and reporting minimized and that relevant scientific and technical studies are disseminated to the international community, and invites the relevant specialized agencies, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, as well as regional and subregional fisheries organizations and arrangements, to cooperate with the Secretary-General to that end;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session, under the item entitled "Law of the sea", a sub-item entitled "Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks".

81st plenary meeting
5 December 1995

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[61] A/50/713 and Corr.1.

[62] A/50/550, annex II; see also A/CONF.164/38, annex.

[63] A/50/550.

[64] A/CONF.164/37; see also A/50/550, annex I.

50/25. Large-scale pelagic drift-net fishing and its impact on the living marine resources of the world's oceans and seas; unauthorized fishing in zones of national jurisdiction and its impact on the living marine resources of the world's oceans and seas; and fisheries by-catch and discards and their impact on the sustainable use of the world's living marine resources

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 44/225 of 22 December 1989, 45/197 of 21 December 1990 and 46/215 of 20 December 1991, as well as its decisions 47/443 of 22 December 1992, 48/445 of 21 December 1993 and 49/436 of 19 December 1994, on large-scale pelagic drift-net fishing and its impact on the living marine resources of the world's oceans and seas,

Recalling its resolution 49/116 of 19 December 1994 on unauthorized fishing in zones of national jurisdiction and its impact on the living marine resources of the world's oceans and seas,

Recalling also its resolution 49/118 of 19 December 1994 on fisheries by-catch and discards and their impact on the sustainable use of the world's living marine resources,

Recognizing the efforts that international organizations and members of the international community have made to reduce by-catch and discards in fishing operations,

Conscious of the need to promote and facilitate international cooperation, especially at the regional and subregional levels, in order to ensure the sustainable development and use of the living marine resources of the world's oceans and seas, consistent with the present resolution,

Noting that the Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks,[64] adopted by the United Nations Conference on Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks, provides in its general principles that States shall minimize pollution, waste, discards, catch by lost or abandoned gear, catch of non-target species, both fish and non-fish species, and impacts on associated or dependent species, in particular endangered species, through measures including, to the extent practicable, the development and use of selective, environmentally safe and cost-effective fishing gear and techniques, and further provides that States shall take measures, including the establishment of regulations, to ensure that vessels flying their flags do not conduct unauthorized fishing within areas under the national jurisdiction of other States,

Noting also that the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations has adopted a Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, which sets out principles and global standards of behaviour for responsible practices to conserve, manage and develop fisheries, including guidelines for fishing on the high seas and in areas under the national jurisdiction of other States, and on fishing gear selectivity and practices, with the aim of reducing by-catch and discards,

Expressing deep concern at the detrimental impact of unauthorized fishing in areas under national jurisdiction, where the overwhelming proportion of the global fish catch is harvested, on the sustainable development of the world's fishery resources and on the food security and economies of many States, particularly developing States,

Reaffirming the rights and duties of coastal States to ensure proper conservation and management measures with respect to the living resources in areas under their national jurisdiction, in accordance with international law as reflected in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea,[41]

Taking note of the reports of the Secretary-General on large-scale pelagic drift-net fishing and its impact on the living marine resources of the world's oceans and seas,[65] and unauthorized fishing in zones of national jurisdiction and its impact on the living marine resources of the world's oceans and seas,[66]

Taking note also of the report of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations on fisheries by-catch and discards and their impact on the sustainable use of the world's living marine resources,[67]

Acknowledging with appreciation the measures taken and the progress made by members of the international community, international organizations and regional economic integration organizations to implement and support the objectives of resolution 46/215,

Expressing deep concern that there are continuing reports of activities inconsistent with the terms of resolution 46/215 and unauthorized fishing inconsistent with the terms of resolution 49/116,

1. *Reaffirms* the importance it attaches to compliance with its resolution 46/215, in particular to those provisions of the resolution calling for full implementation of a global moratorium on all large-scale pelagic drift-net fishing on the high seas of the world's oceans and seas, including enclosed seas and semi-enclosed seas;

2. *Urges* all authorities of members of the international community to take greater enforcement responsibility to ensure full compliance with resolution 46/215 and to impose appropriate sanctions, consistent with their obligations under international law, against acts contrary to the terms of that resolution;

3. *Calls upon* States to take the responsibility, consistent with their obligations under international law as reflected in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and resolution 49/116, to take measures to ensure that no fishing vessels entitled to fly their national flags fish in areas under the national jurisdiction of other States unless duly authorized by the competent authorities of the coastal State or States concerned; such authorized fishing operations should be carried out in accordance with the conditions set out in the authorization;

4. *Urges* States, relevant international organizations and regional and subregional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to take action to adopt policies, apply measures, collect and exchange data and develop techniques to reduce by-catches, fish discards and post-harvest losses consistent with international law and relevant international instruments, including the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries;

5. *Calls upon* development assistance organizations to make it a high priority to support, including through financial and/or technical assistance, efforts of developing

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[65] A/50/553.

[66] A/50/549.

[67] A/50/552, annex.

coastal States, in particular the least developed countries and the small island developing States, to improve the monitoring and control of fishing activities and the enforcement of fishing regulations;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all members of the international community, relevant intergovernmental organizations, the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, regional and subregional fisheries management organizations, and relevant non-governmental organizations, and invites them to provide the Secretary-General with information relevant to the implementation of the present resolution;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that reporting on all major fisheries-related activities and instruments is effectively coordinated and duplication of activities and reporting minimized and that relevant scientific and technical studies are disseminated to the international community, and invites the relevant specialized agencies, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, as well as regional and subregional fisheries organizations and arrangements, to cooperate with the Secretary-General to that end;

8. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session a report on further developments relating to the implementation of resolutions 46/215, 49/116 and 49/118, taking into account the information provided by States, relevant specialized agencies, in particular the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, and other appropriate organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system, regional and subregional organizations and arrangements and other relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session, under the item entitled "Law of the sea", a sub-item entitled "Large-scale pelagic drift-net fishing and its impact on the living marine resources of the world's oceans and seas; unauthorized fishing in zones of national jurisdiction and its impact on the living marine resources of the world's oceans and seas; and fisheries by-catch and discards and their impact on the sustainable use of the world's living marine resources".

81st plenary meeting
5 December 1995

50/39. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

The General Assembly,

Having examined the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,[68]

Recalling its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and all its subsequent resolutions concerning the implementation of the Declaration, most recently resolution 49/89 of 16 December 1994, as well as the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

Recognizing that the eradication of colonialism is one of the priorities of the Organization for the decade that began in 1990,

Deeply conscious of the need to take, speedily, measures to eliminate the last vestiges of colonialism by the year 2000, as called for in its resolution 43/47 of 22 November 1988,

Reiterating its conviction of the need for the elimination of colonialism, as well as of the need for the total eradication of racial discrimination and violations of basic human rights,

Noting with satisfaction the achievements of the Special Committee in contributing to the effective and complete implementation of the Declaration and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization,

Stressing the importance of the participation of the administering Powers in the work of the Special Committee,

Also noting with satisfaction the cooperation and active participation of some administering Powers in the work of the Special Committee, as well as their continued readiness to receive United Nations visiting missions in the Territories under their administration,

Noting with concern the negative impact which the non-participation of certain administering Powers has had on the work of the Special Committee, depriving it of an important source of information on the Territories under their administration,

Aware of the pressing need of newly independent and emerging States for assistance from the United Nations and its system of organizations in the economic, social and other fields,

Aware also of the pressing need of the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories, including particularly the small island Territories, for economic, social and other assistance from the United Nations and the organizations within its system,

Taking special note of the fact that, during its 1995 session, the Special Committee carried out a mid-term review of the Plan of Action for the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism in the context of the commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations, in which further options for self-determination were explored,

1. *Reaffirms* its resolution 1514 (XV) and all other resolutions on decolonization, including its resolution 43/47, in which it declared the decade that began in 1990 as the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, and calls upon the administering Powers, in accordance with those resolutions, to take all necessary steps to enable the peoples of the Territories concerned to exercise fully as soon as possible their right to self-determination, including independence;

2. *Affirms once again* that the continuation of colonialism in any form or manifestation—including economic exploitation—is incompatible with the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[5] and the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

3. *Reaffirms its determination* to continue to take all steps necessary to bring about the complete and speedy eradication of colonialism and the faithful observance by

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[68] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/50/23).

all States of the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;

4. *Affirms once again* its support for the aspirations of the peoples under colonial rule to exercise their right to self-determination, including independence;

5. *Approves* the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples covering its work during 1995, including the programme of work envisaged for 1996;[69]

6. *Calls upon* all States, in particular the administering Powers, as well as the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, to give effect within their respective spheres of competence to the recommendations of the Special Committee for the implementation of the Declaration and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

7. *Calls upon* the administering Powers to ensure that no activity of foreign economic and other interests in the Non-Self-Governing Territories under their administration hinders the peoples of those Territories from exercising their right to self-determination, including independence;

8. *Takes note* of the decision of some of the administering Powers to close or downsize some of the military bases in the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

9. *Calls upon* the administering Powers to eliminate the remaining military bases in the Non-Self-Governing Territories in compliance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and urges them not to involve those Territories in any offensive acts or interference against other States;

10. *Urges* all States, directly and through their action in the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, to provide moral and material assistance to the peoples of colonial Territories, and requests that the administering Powers, in consultation with the Governments of the Territories under their administration, take steps to enlist and make effective use of all possible assistance, on both a bilateral and a multilateral basis, in the strengthening of the economies of those Territories;

11. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to seek suitable means for the immediate and full implementation of the Declaration and to carry out those actions approved by the General Assembly regarding the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism in all Territories that have not yet exercised their right to self-determination, including independence, and in particular:

(*a*) To formulate specific proposals for the elimination of the remaining manifestations of colonialism and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session;

(*b*) To continue to examine the implementation by Member States of resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions on decolonization;

(*c*) To continue to pay special attention to the small Territories, in particular through the dispatch of regular visiting missions, and to recommend to the General Assembly the most suitable steps to be taken to enable the populations of those Territories to exercise their right to self-determination and independence;

(*d*) To take all necessary steps to enlist worldwide support among Governments, as well as national and international organizations, for the achievement of the objectives of the Declaration and the implementation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

12. *Calls upon* the administering Powers to continue to cooperate with the Special Committee in the discharge of its mandate and to receive visiting missions to the Territories to secure first-hand information and ascertain the wishes and aspirations of their inhabitants;

13. *Also calls upon* the administering Powers that have not participated in the work of the Special Committee to do so at its 1996 session;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to provide economic, social and other assistance to the Non-Self-Governing Territories and to continue to do so, as appropriate, after they exercise their right to self-determination, including independence;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Special Committee with the facilities and services required for the implementation of the present resolution, as well as of the other resolutions and decisions on decolonization adopted by the General Assembly and the Special Committee.

82nd plenary meeting
6 December 1995

50/40. Dissemination of information on decolonization

The General Assembly,

Having examined the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to the dissemination of information on decolonization and publicity for the work of the United Nations in the field of decolonization,[70]

Recalling its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and other resolutions and decisions of the United Nations concerning the dissemination of information on decolonization, in particular General Assembly resolution 49/90 of 16 December 1994,

Recognizing the need for flexible, practical and innovative approaches towards reviewing the options of self-determination for the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories with a view to achieving complete decolonization by the year 2000,

Reiterating the importance of dissemination of information as an instrument for furthering the aims of the Declaration, and mindful of the role of world public opinion in effectively assisting the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories to achieve self-determination,

Aware of the role of non-governmental organizations in the dissemination of information on decolonization,

1. *Approves* the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to the dissemi-

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[69] Ibid., chap. I, sect. J.

[70] Ibid., chap. III.

nation of information on decolonization and publicity for the work of the United Nations in the field of decolonization;

2. *Considers it important* to continue its efforts to ensure the widest possible dissemination of information on decolonization, with particular emphasis on the options of self-determination available for the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories;

3. *Requests* the Department of Political Affairs and the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat to take into account the suggestions of the Special Committee to continue their efforts to take measures through all the media available, including publications, radio and television, as well as the Internet, to give publicity to the work of the United Nations in the field of decolonization and, *inter alia*:

(*a*) To continue to collect, prepare and disseminate basic material on the issue of self-determination of the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories;

(*b*) To seek the full cooperation of the administering Powers in the discharge of the tasks referred to above;

(*c*) To maintain a working relationship with the appropriate regional and intergovernmental organizations, particularly in the Pacific and Caribbean regions, by holding periodic consultations and exchanging information;

(*d*) To encourage involvement of non-governmental organizations in the dissemination of information on decolonization;

(*e*) To report to the Special Committee on measures taken in the implementation of the present resolution;

4. *Requests* all States, including the administering Powers, to continue to extend their cooperation in the dissemination of information referred to in paragraph 2 above;

5. *Requests* the Special Committee to follow the implementation of the present resolution and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session.

82nd plenary meeting
6 December 1995

50/41. University for Peace

The General Assembly,

Recalling that in its resolution 34/111 of 14 December 1979 it approved the idea of establishing the University for Peace as a specialized international centre for postgraduate studies, research and the dissemination of knowledge specifically aimed at training and education for peace and its universal promotion within the system of the United Nations University,

Recalling also that in its resolution 35/55 of 5 December 1980 it approved the establishment of the University for Peace in conformity with the International Agreement for the Establishment of the University for Peace,[71]

Recalling further its resolutions 45/8 of 24 October 1990 and 46/11 of 24 October 1991, on the tenth anniversary of the University for Peace and the report of the Secretary-General on that anniversary,[72] and its resolution 48/9 of 25 October 1993, in which it decided to include in the agenda of its fiftieth session the item entitled "University for Peace",

Recognizing that the University has suffered from financial limitations which have impeded the full development of the activities and programmes necessary for carrying out its important mandate,

Recognizing also the important and varied activities carried out by the University during the period 1993-1995, largely thanks to the financial contributions made by Canada, Costa Rica, the Netherlands and Spain and contributions by foundations and non-governmental organizations,

Noting that in 1991 the Secretary-General, with the assistance of the United Nations Development Programme, established a Trust Fund for Peace consisting of voluntary contributions in order to provide the University with the means necessary to extend its sphere of activity to the rest of the world, to take full advantage of its potential capacity for education, research and support of the United Nations and to carry out its mandate of promoting peace in the world,

Noting also that the University has placed special emphasis, in the context of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "An Agenda for Peace",[29] on the area of conflict prevention, peace-keeping and peace-building, as well as on the peaceful settlement of disputes,

Considering the importance of promoting an education for peace which will help to foster respect for the values inherent in peace and universal coexistence among human beings, such as respect for life, friendship and solidarity between peoples and the dignity and integrity of persons irrespective of their nationality, race, sex, religion or culture,

Taking into account the efforts being made by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization for the development and promotion of a new culture of peace,

Noting further the research activities for international peace and security being carried out by the United Nations University,

Recalling that Turkey acceded to the International Agreement for the Establishment of the University for Peace on 27 November 1995,

Recalling also that in its resolution 46/11 it decided to include in the agenda of its forty-eighth session and biennially thereafter an item entitled "University for Peace",

1. *Reiterates its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for the establishment of the new Council of the University for Peace, which held its ninth regular meeting on 3 October 1994;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consider ways of strengthening cooperation between the United Nations and the University for Peace and to submit a report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session;

3. *Invites* Member States, non-governmental organizations and intergovernmental bodies, as well as interested individuals and organizations, to contribute directly to the Trust Fund for Peace and to the budget of the University;

4. *Invites* Member States to accede to the International Agreement for the Establishment of the University for Peace, thereby demonstrating their support for a global peace studies institution whose mandate is the promotion of a global culture of peace;

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[71] See resolution 35/55, annex.

[72] A/46/580.

5. *Decides* to include in the agenda of its fifty-second session the item entitled "University for Peace".

85th plenary meeting
8 December 1995

50/42. Fourth World Conference on Women

The General Assembly,

Noting with satisfaction the successful conclusion of the Fourth World Conference on Women, held at Beijing from 4 to 15 September 1995, which culminated in the adoption of the Beijing Declaration[73] and the Platform for Action,[74] aimed at accelerating the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women[75] to the year 2000,

1. *Expresses its profound gratitude* to the Government of the People's Republic of China for having made it possible for the Fourth World Conference on Women to be held at Beijing and for the excellent facilities, staff and services so graciously placed at the disposal of the Conference;

2. *Takes note* of the report of the Fourth World Conference on Women;[76]

3. *Endorses* the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action as adopted at the Conference on 15 September 1995;

4. *Calls upon* all States and all bodies of the United Nations system and other international organizations, as well as non-governmental organizations, to take action for the effective implementation of the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action.

86th plenary meeting
8 December 1995

50/56. Return or restitution of cultural property to the countries of origin

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 3026 A (XXVII) of 18 December 1972, 3148 (XXVIII) of 14 December 1973, 3187 (XXVIII) of 18 December 1973, 3391 (XXX) of 19 November 1975, 31/40 of 30 November 1976, 32/18 of 11 November 1977, 33/50 of 14 December 1978, 34/64 of 29 November 1979, 35/127 and 35/128 of 11 December 1980, 36/64 of 27 November 1981, 38/34 of 25 November 1983, 40/19 of 21 November 1985, 42/7 of 22 October 1987, 44/18 of 6 November 1989, 46/10 of 22 October 1991 and 48/15 of 2 November 1993,

Recalling also the Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property[77] adopted on 14 November 1970 by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,

Taking note with satisfaction of the report of the Secretary-General of 3 October 1995 submitted in cooperation with the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,[78]

Noting with satisfaction that, following its appeal, other Member States have become parties to the Convention,

Aware of the importance attached by the countries of origin to the return of cultural property which is of fundamental spiritual and cultural value to them, so that they may constitute collections representative of their cultural heritage,

1. *Commends* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the Intergovernmental Committee for Promoting the Return of Cultural Property to Its Countries of Origin or Its Restitution in Case of Illicit Appropriation on the work they have accomplished, in particular through the promotion of bilateral negotiations, for the return or restitution of cultural property, the preparation of inventories of movable cultural property, the reduction of illicit traffic in cultural property and the dissemination of information to the public;

2. *Reaffirms* that the restitution to a country of its objets d'art, monuments, museum pieces, archives, manuscripts, documents and any other cultural or artistic treasures contributes to the strengthening of international cooperation and to the preservation and flowering of universal cultural values through fruitful cooperation between developed and developing countries;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in collaboration with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, to continue to develop all possibilities for bringing about the attainment of the objectives of resolution 48/15;

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-second session the item entitled "Return or restitution of cultural property to the countries of origin".

87th plenary meeting
11 December 1995

50/57. Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 46/182 of 19 December 1991, 47/168 of 22 December 1992, 48/57 of 14 December 1993 and 49/139 of 20 December 1994,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General of 14 June 1995,[79]

Taking note also of Economic and Social Council resolution 1995/56 of 28 July 1995,

Decides to refer further deliberations on these matters, including those related to the Central Emergency Revolving Fund, to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1996.

89th plenary meeting
12 December 1995

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[73] A/CONF.177/20, chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[74] Ibid., annex II.

[75] *Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect. A.

[76] A/CONF.177/20 and Add.1.

[77] United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Sixteenth Session*, vol. 1, *Resolutions*, p. 135.

[78] A/50/498.

[79] A/50/203-E/1995/79 and Add.1.

50/58. Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: special economic assistance to individual countries or regions

A

ASSISTANCE FOR THE REHABILITATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF LIBERIA

The General Assembly,

Taking note of Security Council resolution 1020 (1995) of 10 November 1995, in which, *inter alia*, the Council called upon all of the Liberian parties to respect and implement fully and expeditiously all the agreements and commitments they had entered into, in particular with regard to the maintenance of the cease-fire, disarmament and demobilization of combatants, and national reconciliation, as the restoration of peace and democracy in Liberia was primarily the responsibility of those parties which signed the Abuja Agreement on 19 August 1995,[80]

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General of 9 October 1995,[81]

Deeply concerned about the adverse effects of the protracted conflict on the socio-economic development of Liberia, and noting the urgent need to restore peace and stability so as to make possible the rehabilitation and reconstruction of basic sectors of the country,

Recognizing the recent progress made by the Liberian parties towards the peaceful resolution of the conflict, including the re-establishment of a cease-fire, the installation of a new Council of State on 1 September 1995 and the agreement reached on a timetable for the implementation of the peace process from the cease-fire to the holding of executive and legislative elections in August 1996,

Noting with concern that the lack of logistics and security guarantees continues to impair the delivery of relief assistance, particularly in the areas not yet under the control of the Economic Community of West African States Monitoring Group, thereby hampering the transition from emergency to development activities,

Commending the concerted and determined efforts of the Economic Community of West African States to restore peace, security and stability in Liberia,

1. *Expresses its gratitude* to the States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations that have rendered assistance to the Liberian National Transitional Government in its relief and rehabilitation efforts, and urges that such assistance be continued;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for his continuing efforts to mobilize relief and rehabilitation assistance for Liberia, expresses its gratitude to him for convening a pledging conference on assistance to Liberia in New York on 27 October 1995, and in this regard encourages States that pledged assistance to fulfil their commitments;

3. *Calls upon* all States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to continue to provide Liberia with technical, financial and other assistance for the repatriation and resettlement of Liberian refugees, returnees and displaced persons and the rehabilitation of combatants so as to facilitate the restoration of peace and normalcy in Liberia;

4. *Reiterates its appeal* to all States to contribute generously to the Trust Fund for Liberia established by the Secretary-General, *inter alia*, to assist the Economic Community of West African States Monitoring Group to fulfil its mandate and to provide assistance for the reconstruction of Liberia;

5. *Emphasizes* the urgent need for all parties and factions in Liberia to respect fully the security and safety of all personnel of the United Nations, its specialized agencies, non-governmental organizations and the Economic Community of West African States Monitoring Group by ensuring their complete freedom of movement throughout Liberia and to take all measures necessary to create an atmosphere conducive to the successful resolution of the conflict;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(*a*) To continue his efforts to mobilize all possible assistance within the United Nations system to help the Government of Liberia in its reconstruction and development efforts;

(*b*) To undertake, when conditions permit, in close collaboration with the authorities of Liberia, an overall assessment of needs, with the objective of holding a round-table conference of donors for the reconstruction and development of Liberia;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution;

8. *Decides* to consider at its fifty-first session the question of international assistance for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of Liberia.

89th plenary meeting
12 December 1995

B

INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE TO AND COOPERATION WITH THE ALLIANCE FOR THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF CENTRAL AMERICA

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the relevant resolutions on the importance of international economic, financial and technical cooperation and assistance during the transition period, a process of peace-keeping and post-conflict peace-building, in particular its resolutions 49/137 and 49/21 I of 19 and 20 December 1994, respectively, which emphasize the compelling need to design a new programme for international economic, financial and technical cooperation and assistance for Central America geared to the new circumstances in the region and based on the priorities established by the Governments of the region,

Recalling its resolutions 48/7 of 19 October 1993 and 49/215 A of 23 December 1994 on assistance in mine clearance, and recognizing with concern that the presence of mines and other unexploded devices on Central American territory has social, economic and humanitarian consequences that constitute an obstacle to the restoration of normal conditions for development throughout the region,

Recalling also the efforts and aspirations of the peoples and Governments of the isthmus to make Central America a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development,

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[80] *Official Records of the Security Council, Fiftieth Year, Supplement for July, August and September 1995*, document S/1995/742.

[81] A/50/522.

Recognizing the valuable and effective contribution made by the United Nations, and by the various governmental and non-governmental mechanisms, towards enabling the Central American peoples fully to achieve their objectives of peace, freedom, democracy and development, and the importance of the political dialogue and economic cooperation taking place within the ministerial conference between the European Union and the Central American countries and the joint initiative of the industrialized countries of the Group of Twenty-four and the countries of the Group of Three as cooperating countries, through the Association for Democracy and Development in Central America and other institutions,

Taking note with satisfaction of the very important results achieved by the Programme for Displaced Persons, Refugees and Returnees in Central America (PRODERE) for sustainable social and economic development in Central America, and stressing the relevance of the contribution made by the Programme to the peace process in the region,

Also taking note with satisfaction of the report of the Secretary-General on international assistance to and cooperation with the Alliance for the Sustainable Development of Central America,[82] which describes the international cooperation activities implemented since January 1995 in support of the new regional development programme, following the conclusion of the Special Plan of Economic Cooperation for Central America,

Recognizing the validity of the Declaration of Commitments in favour of populations affected both by uprootedness and by conflicts and extreme poverty, adopted at Mexico City on 29 June 1994, as well as the functions of lead agency assumed by the United Nations Development Programme, in replacement of the mandate previously carried out by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, which are concentrated in priority social spheres,

Recognizing also that, notwithstanding the progress made, it is necessary to continue monitoring the situation in Central America until the underlying structural causes that gave rise to the deep crisis into which the region was plunged have been overcome, and to avoid set-backs in the process and consolidate a firm and lasting peace in Central America,

Recognizing further the importance and validity of the commitments assumed by the Central American Presidents from the Esquipulas II summit meeting of 7 August 1987[83] to the present, in particular at the fifteenth summit meeting held at Guácimo, Costa Rica, from 18 to 20 August 1994,[84] the Central American Environment Summit for Sustainable Development held at Managua on 12 and 13 October 1994,[85] the International Conference on Peace and Development in Central America held at Tegucigalpa on 24 and 25 October 1994[86] and the sixteenth summit meeting of Central American Presidents held in El Salvador in March 1995, at which the priorities of the subregion were set which constitute the framework for the new programme of international assistance and cooperation for Central America,

Underlining the establishment of the Alliance for the Sustainable Development of Central America, which constitutes the new comprehensive strategy for national and regional development and defines political, economic, social and environmental priorities, and the signing, at the El Salvador summit meeting on 30 March 1995, of the Treaty on Central American Social Integration,[87] one of the main objectives of which is to increase investment in human capital, and taking into account that the Central American Integration System is the institutional framework that makes it possible to promote integral development in an effective, orderly and coherent manner,

Taking into consideration the will of the Central American Presidents to adopt a national and regional strategy entitled "Alliance for the Sustainable Development of Central America"[85] as a comprehensive initiative in the political, moral, economic, social and ecological fields, which includes a redefining of the relations of Central America with the international community and is aimed at improving the well-being of the peoples of the subregion,

1. *Emphasizes* the importance of supporting and strengthening the new programme for international economic, financial and technical cooperation and assistance for Central America geared to the new circumstances in the region and based on the priorities laid down in the Declaration of Commitments adopted by the Follow-up Committee of the International Conference on Central American Refugees and in the new subregional development strategy, the Alliance for the Sustainable Development of Central America;

2. *Notes with satisfaction* the efforts and achievements relating to mine clearance in Central America, and appeals to the organs of the United Nations system and to the international community, and in particular to the Secretary-General, to provide the material, technical and financial support needed by the Central American Governments to complete mine-clearance activities in the region, including those activities among the priorities of the new programme of international assistance to and cooperation with Central America, so as to create improved conditions for promoting the process of reconstruction and sustainable development and, hence, lasting and permanent peace in the region;

3. *Supports* the efforts of the Central American countries in their commitments to the alleviation of extreme poverty and the fostering of sustainable human development, and urges their Governments to continue their efforts to formulate and implement policies and programmes, especially those of a social and environmental character and those relating to investment in human capital;

4. *Stresses* the importance of international economic, financial and technical cooperation and assistance, both bilateral and multilateral, in supporting the efforts of the Central American Governments to implement the new programme for the sustainable development of Central America;

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[82] A/50/534.

[83] A/42/521-S/19085, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-second Year, Supplement for July, August and September 1987*, document S/19085.

[84] See A/49/340-S/1994/994, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-ninth Year, Supplement for July, August and September 1994*, document S/1994/994.

[85] See A/49/580-S/1994/1217, annex I; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-ninth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1994*, document S/1994/1217.

[86] See A/49/639-S/1994/1247; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Supplement for October, November and December 1994*, document S/1994/1247.

[87] A/49/901-S/1995/396, annex VII; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fiftieth Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1995*, document S/1995/396.

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, the United Nations system and, in particular, the United Nations Development Programme to continue their efforts to mobilize resources in order to put into effect the new strategy for integral development in Central America contained in the Alliance for Sustainable Development and in the Declaration of Commitments, through arrangements that the Central American countries are to determine jointly with the cooperating community;

6. *Urges* all States, intergovernmental organizations, international financial institutions, the organs and specialized agencies of the United Nations system and regional and subregional organizations to continue the necessary support for the implementation of the goals and objectives of the new strategy for integral development in Central America;

7. *Again stresses* the urgent need for the international community to maintain its cooperation with the Central American countries and to provide them with the necessary financial resources, in a sustained manner and on soft terms, where appropriate, with a view to promoting effectively the economic growth and development of the region;

8. *Supports* the decision of the Central American Governments to concentrate their efforts on the implementation of updated programmes with strategies for sustainable human development in previously determined priority areas, which help to consolidate peace and remedy social inequalities, extreme poverty and the social explosion;

9. *Reiterates* that only by solving the political, economic, social and environmental problems that are the cause of tensions and conflicts in society will it be possible to avoid a reversal of the achievements and guarantee a firm and lasting peace in Central America;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session on the implementation of the present resolution;

11. *Decides* to consider at its fifty-second session the question of international assistance to and cooperation with the Alliance for the Sustainable Development of Central America.

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C

ASSISTANCE FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT OF EL SALVADOR

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Security Council resolutions relating to the peace process in El Salvador, and reaffirming its resolutions 47/158 of 18 December 1992, 48/203 of 21 December 1993, 49/21 J of 20 December 1994 and 50/7 of 31 October 1995,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General of 23 October 1995 on assistance for the reconstruction and development of El Salvador[88] and of 6 October 1995 on the Mission of the United Nations in El Salvador,[8]

Noting with satisfaction the renewed expression by the Government of El Salvador and all the political forces involved in the peace process of their political will to implement the remaining commitments under the Chapultepec Agreement,[9] and the efforts to develop programmes and projects of social benefit aimed at the maintenance and consolidation of peace, democratization and sustainable development,

Noting that, in spite of national efforts and the support given by the international community to the implementation of the priority programmes in fulfilment of the Peace Agreement, including the strengthening of democratic institutions, the national reconstruction plan and the economic and social development plan, the implementation of certain programmes and projects basic to the process has continued to be affected by, *inter alia*, the limited availability and the reduction of financial resources in support of the consolidation of peace,

Recognizing that El Salvador is at a complex stage in the process of consolidating peace, which calls not only for the implementation of the remaining commitments under the Peace Agreement but also for a new approach involving the implementation and consolidation of medium-term and long-term national development programmes and strategies aimed at resolving the structural problems that are the cause of tension and social instability, and emphasizing the importance and necessity of international technical and financial assistance, both bilateral and multilateral, for the development of those programmes in support of national efforts to achieve the objective of a firm and lasting peace,

Taking into account the need to ensure the continuity of the process of democratization and national reconciliation, to complete national reconstruction and to promote sustainable development, as well as the need to strengthen the national machinery which will monitor the consolidation of the peace process before the completion of the mandate of the Mission of the United Nations in El Salvador,

1. *Again expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General and his representatives for their effective and timely participation, to the Group of Friends of the Secretary-General, Colombia, Mexico, Spain and Venezuela, and to the United States of America and other interested States for their contribution to the consolidation of the peace process, democratization and the promotion of economic and social development in El Salvador;

2. *Again expresses its gratitude* to the international community, especially the cooperating community, to the specialized agencies of the United Nations system and to international development and financing institutions, both governmental and non-governmental, for the technical and financial assistance they have provided to El Salvador to complement the effort to consolidate peace and to bring about democracy, reconstruction and national development;

3. *Reaffirms* that the implementation of the remaining commitments of the Peace Agreement, the continuation of programmes of national reconstruction, the strengthening of democratic institutions and the promotion of sustainable development constitute the collective goals, aspirations and needs of the country in overcoming the root causes of the crisis and consolidating peace, democracy and human development;

4. *Urges* the Government of El Salvador and all the political forces involved in the peace process to make every effort to finish complying with the remaining commitments of the Peace Agreement and to continue to develop medium-term and long-term national programmes and strategies, particularly social welfare projects, designed to

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[88] A/50/455.

improve the lives of the most vulnerable segments of the population;

5. *Encourages* the international community, in particular the donor community and international institutions of the United Nations system active in the field of development, cooperation and financing, to continue to contribute to the consolidation of peace in El Salvador by responding flexibly and generously with sufficient resources in support of the efforts of the Government of El Salvador effectively to promote and achieve the aspirations and objectives of the people of El Salvador, in accordance with the spirit of the Peace Agreement;

6. *Again invites* the international financial organizations to work with the Government of El Salvador in considering measures to harmonize the economic adjustment and stabilization programmes with the priority programmes of the national reconstruction plan and the economic and social development plan targeting the population affected by the conflict and the most vulnerable segments of Salvadoran society;

7. *Again requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures and make every possible effort to mobilize the material and financial resources needed to meet the requirements of the priority programmes in El Salvador that are critical to the successful outcome and consolidation of the peace process;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session on the implementation of the present resolution, and decides to consider at that session the question of assistance for the reconstruction and development of El Salvador.

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D

INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE FOR THE ECONOMIC REHABILITATION OF ANGOLA

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions appealing to the international community to continue to render material, technical and financial assistance for the economic rehabilitation of Angola,

Recalling also that the Security Council, in its resolutions 922 (1994) of 31 May 1994, 932 (1994) of 30 June 1994, 945 (1994) of 29 September 1994, 952 (1994) of 27 October 1994, 966 (1994) of 8 December 1994, 976 (1995) of 8 February 1995 and 1008 (1995) of 7 August 1995, in the presidential statements on Angola of 11 May 1995[89] and 12 October 1995,[90] and in other resolutions on international assistance for the economic rehabilitation of Angola, had, *inter alia*, requested the international community to render assistance to Angola,

Deeply concerned about the critical economic and social situation prevailing in Angola, aggravated by the tremendous consequences of war which have destroyed the economic and social infrastructure,

Stressing the fact that the ongoing implementation of the peace agreements, including the Lusaka Protocol,[36] will foster peace and stability, thus creating favourable conditions for the economic and social rehabilitation of the country,

Welcoming the results of the first Round-Table Conference of Donors, held at Brussels from 25 to 27 September 1995, conducted in a spirit of reconciliation and intended to mobilize funds for the Community Rehabilitation and National Reconciliation Programme, and aware of the important role to be played by the international community in assisting Angola in rehabilitating its economy and its basic and social infrastructures, as well as the development of human resources,

Recognizing that the social and economic reintegration of demobilized combatants is essential for the establishment of lasting peace and sustainable development in Angola,

Stressing the need to strengthen the process of demining of all roads, as well as areas of productive activities, by means of appropriate international assistance and the continued commitment of all parties in Angola,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General of 12 September 1995;[91]

2. *Calls upon* all parties to do their utmost to achieve the full and effective implementation of the Peace Accords for Angola[35] in order to bring peace and stability to Angola, thus creating conditions conducive to its economic rehabilitation;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to all States, United Nations organizations and other donors for the substantial humanitarian assistance rendered to Angola during the last two years, and appeals for continued and generous contributions in support of humanitarian activities facilitating the current transition to peace;

4. *Appeals* to all Governments and international and private institutions that announced their contributions at the Round-Table Conference of Donors to honour their commitments, and encourages the Government of Angola to proceed with its programme of economic rehabilitation, including through the implementation of the Community Rehabilitation and National Reconciliation Programme, and to overcome its social, economic and financial crisis;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the international community, to continue to mobilize organizations and organs of the United Nations system in order to ensure an appropriate level of economic assistance for Angola;

6. *Commends* all Governments, non-governmental organizations and United Nations specialized agencies involved in the mine-action programme in Angola, and requests the international community to consider increasing its support in this domain;

7. *Urges* Member States and other donors to provide support for the programme of demobilization and reintegration of excess combatants, as outlined in the appeal issued by the Department of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat in July 1995;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session on the implementation of the present resolution;

9. *Decides* to review at its fifty-second session the question of international assistance for the economic rehabilitation of Angola.

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[89] *Official Records of the Security Council, Fiftieth Year, Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1995*, document S/PRST/1995/27.

[90] Ibid., document S/PRST/1995/51.

[91] A/50/424.

E

ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO STATES AFFECTED BY THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS IMPOSING SANCTIONS AGAINST THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA (SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO)

The General Assembly,

Recalling the provisions of Articles 25, 48, 49 and 50 of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling also Security Council resolution 843 (1993) of 18 June 1993, in which the Council entrusted the Committee established pursuant to its resolution 724 (1991) of 15 December 1991 with the task of examining requests by Member States for assistance under the provisions of Article 50 of the Charter, and the recommendations of the Committee in response to requests for assistance addressed to the Council by certain States confronting special economic problems arising from the implementation of Council trade and economic sanctions against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro),

Recalling further Security Council resolution 943 (1994) of 23 September 1994, in which the Council invited the Committee established pursuant to resolution 724 (1991) to adopt appropriate streamlined procedures for expediting its consideration of applications concerning legitimate humanitarian assistance,

Expressing its appreciation that in the last few months the Committee established pursuant to resolution 724 (1991) has undertaken measures aimed at improving and accelerating the processing of applications put forward to the Committee,

Reaffirming its resolutions 48/210 of 21 December 1993 and 49/21 A of 2 December 1994 on economic assistance to States affected by the implementation of the Security Council resolutions imposing sanctions against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro),

Taking note of the letter on behalf of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of five States directly affected addressed to the Secretary-General[92] and in particular the proposals for taking concrete steps contained therein,

Commending the efforts of the international financial institutions, other international organizations and those States that responded to the appeal of the Secretary-General by taking into consideration the special economic problems arising from the implementation of the sanctions in their support programmes to the affected States,

Commending also the continuing attention by the intergovernmental and regional organizations, in particular the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the European Union, as well as through the Central European Initiative, to the needs of the affected States for assistance in developing regional transport and communication infrastructures,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General of 25 January 1995 entitled "Supplement to An Agenda for Peace: position paper of the Secretary-General on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations",[30] in particular its chapter III.E, on the issue of United Nations sanctions,

Taking note also of the report of the Secretary-General of 12 September 1995 on the implementation of resolution 49/21 A[93] and, in particular, of the conclusions and recommendations contained therein,

1. *Commends* the States bordering on the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro), the other Danube riparian States and all other States for the measures they have taken to comply with Security Council resolutions 713 (1991) of 25 September 1991, 757 (1992) of 30 May 1992, 760 (1992) of 18 June 1992, 787 (1992) of 16 November 1992, 820 (1993) of 17 April 1993 and 1021 (1995) and 1022 (1995) of 22 November 1995, and urges all States to continue to observe those resolutions strictly;

2. *Expresses concern* at the persisting special economic problems confronting States, in particular the States that border the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro), the other Danube riparian States and all other States adversely affected by the severance of their economic relations with the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) and the disruption of traditional transport and communications links in that part of Europe and their long-term adverse impact on the economies of those States;

3. *Reaffirms* the urgent need of a concerted response from the international community to deal in a more effective manner with the special economic problems of the affected States in view of their magnitude and the adverse impact of the sanctions on those States;

4. *Renews its invitation* to the international financial institutions, in particular the International Monetary Fund, the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, to continue to pay special attention to the economic problems of the affected States and their adverse social impact and to consider ways and means for mobilizing and providing resources on appropriate terms for mitigating the continuing negative impact of the sanctions on the efforts of the affected States for financial stabilization as well as for development of regional transport and communications infrastructure;

5. *Renews its request* to the competent organs, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system to take into consideration, in programming their development activities, the special needs of the affected States and to consider providing assistance to them from their special programme resources;

6. *Renews its appeal* to all States, on an urgent basis, to provide technical, financial and material assistance to the affected States to mitigate the adverse impact of the sanctions on their economies, *inter alia*, through the consideration of measures for the promotion of exports of the affected countries and for the promotion of investments in their economies;

7. *Encourages* the States of the region affected by the implementation of the Security Council resolutions imposing sanctions against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) to continue, *inter alia*, to cooperate actively on a regional basis in such fields as cross-border infrastructure projects or promotion of trade, thus alleviating the adverse impact of the sanctions;

8. *Urges* the organizations and specialized agencies of the United Nations system rendering humanitarian assistance to Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro), including material

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[92] A/50/189-S/1995/412; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fiftieth Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1995*, document S/1995/412.

[93] A/50/423.

and food supply for the United Nations Protection Force and other United Nations peace-keeping contingents, to take appropriate steps to broaden access for suppliers, particularly from the States affected by the implementation of the Security Council mandatory sanctions against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro);

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all appropriate measures to increase the opportunity for countries affected by the sanctions to participate actively in the post-conflict reconstruction and rehabilitation of the crisis-stricken areas of former Yugoslavia after the achievement of a peaceful, lasting and just political solution of the conflict in the Balkans;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to seek on a regular basis information from States and regional organizations and the concerned organs and agencies of the United Nations system on action taken to alleviate the special economic problems of those States and to report thereon to the Security Council, as well as to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

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F

ASSISTANCE FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT OF DJIBOUTI

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 49/21 F of 20 December 1994 and its previous resolutions on economic assistance to Djibouti,

Recalling also the Paris Declaration and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s,[94] adopted by the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries on 14 September 1990, as well as the mutual commitments undertaken on that occasion and the importance attached to the follow-up to that Conference,

Distressed by the large number of persons afflicted by the torrential rains and unprecedented flooding in Djibouti in November 1994 and by the significant damage and devastation to property and infrastructure,

Noting that the economic and social development efforts of Djibouti, which is included in the list of least developed countries, are constrained by the extremes of the local climate, in particular cyclical droughts and torrential rains and floods such as those which occurred in 1989 and 1994, and that the implementation of reconstruction and development programmes, as well as of the demobilization programme, requires the deployment of substantial resources which exceed the real capacity of the country,

Noting with concern that the situation in Djibouti has been made worse by the deteriorating situation in the Horn of Africa and in particular in Somalia, and noting the presence of over 100,000 refugees and persons displaced from their countries, which has, on the one hand, placed serious strains on the fragile economic, social and administrative infrastructure of Djibouti and, on the other, caused serious security problems in the country,

Noting also the difficult economic and financial situation of Djibouti resulting in part from the number of priority development projects that have had to be suspended in view of serious developments in the international situation and in part from the prolonged effects of the previous regional conflicts, notably in Somalia, which have disrupted services, transport and trade and which are draining the State of most of its revenues,

Noting with satisfaction the progress made by the Government of Djibouti and the International Monetary Fund on the negotiations concerning the structural adjustment programme, and convinced of the necessity to support that financial recovery programme and to take effective measures to alleviate the consequences, in particular the social consequences, of that adjustment policy, which is in the course of implementation, in order that the country may achieve appreciable economic results in the context of the programme,

Noting with appreciation the efforts of the United Nations Inter-Agency Assessment Mission to Djibouti organized in April 1994 and led by the United Nations Development Programme, and having considered its recommendations in the light of the new realities of the country,

Noting with gratitude the support provided to relief and rehabilitation operations by various countries and by intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General of 26 July 1995,[95]

1. *Declares its solidarity* with the Government and people of Djibouti in the face of the devastating consequences of the torrential rains and floods and the new economic realities of Djibouti, resulting in particular from the continuing critical situation in the Horn of Africa, especially in Somalia;

2. *Welcomes* the progress made by the Government of Djibouti and the International Monetary Fund on the negotiations concerning the structural adjustment programme, and in that context appeals to all Governments, international financial institutions, the specialized agencies of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations to respond in an appropriate manner, as a matter of urgency, to the financial and material needs of the country;

3. *Considers* that implementation of the demobilization programme and of the national rehabilitation plan and reinforcement of democratic institutions require appropriate assistance in the form of financial and material support;

4. *Requests* a review of the recommendations of the United Nations Inter-Agency Assessment Mission to Djibouti with a view to their implementation;

5. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for his efforts to make the international community aware of the difficulties faced by Djibouti;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to mobilize the resources necessary for an effective programme of financial, technical and material assistance to Djibouti;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a study of the progress made with economic assistance to Djibouti, in time for the question to be considered by the General Assembly at its fifty-first session.

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[94] A/CONF.147/18, part one.

[95] A/50/311.

G

ASSISTANCE FOR HUMANITARIAN RELIEF AND THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL REHABILITATION OF SOMALIA

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 43/206 of 20 December 1988, 44/178 of 19 December 1989, 45/229 of 21 December 1990, 46/176 of 19 December 1991, 47/160 of 18 December 1992, 48/201 of 21 December 1993 and 49/21 L of 20 December 1994 and the resolutions and decisions of the Economic and Social Council on emergency assistance to Somalia,

Recalling also Security Council resolution 733 (1992) of 23 January 1992 and all subsequent relevant resolutions, in which the Council, *inter alia*, urged all parties, movements and factions in Somalia to facilitate the efforts of the United Nations, its specialized agencies and humanitarian organizations to provide urgent humanitarian assistance to the affected population in Somalia and reiterated the call for the full respect of the security and safety of the personnel of those organizations and the guarantee of their complete freedom of movement in and around Mogadishu and other parts of Somalia,

Recalling in particular Security Council resolution 954 (1994) of 4 November 1994, in which the Council, *inter alia*, decided to withdraw all the forces of the United Nations Operation in Somalia II before 31 March 1995 and expressed its confidence in the willingness of the United Nations to remain ready to provide, through its various agencies, rehabilitation and reconstruction assistance,

Taking note of the presidential statement of 6 April 1995,[96] in which the Security Council, *inter alia*, noted the successful conclusion of the withdrawal from Somalia of the forces of the United Nations Operation in Somalia II and welcomed the willingness expressed by the international humanitarian agencies and the non-governmental organizations to continue to provide rehabilitation and reconstruction assistance in areas where security is guaranteed by the Somalis,

Noting the cooperation between the United Nations, the Organization of African Unity, the League of Arab States, the Organization of the Islamic Conference, the countries of the Horn of Africa and the States members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries in their efforts to resolve the humanitarian, security and political crisis in Somalia,

Noting with appreciation the continued efforts made by the Secretary-General to assist the Somali people in their efforts to promote peace, stability and national reconciliation,

Noting with concern that the political instability and the absence of central authority that continue to characterize Somalia provide a breeding ground for new emergencies,

Reaffirming the importance it attaches to the need for effective coordination and cooperation among the United Nations agencies and their partners since the withdrawal of the United Nations Operation in Somalia in March 1995,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General of 19 September 1995 on assistance for humanitarian relief and the economic and social rehabilitation of Somalia,[97]

Deeply appreciative of the humanitarian assistance and rehabilitation support rendered by a number of States to alleviate the hardship and suffering of the affected Somali population,

Noting with appreciation that, following the departure of the United Nations Operation in Somalia and despite the ongoing difficulties, the country is slowly moving towards recovery and reconstruction,

Recognizing that, while the humanitarian situation remains fragile, there is a need to undertake efforts to begin the process of rehabilitation and reconstruction alongside the process of national reconciliation, without prejudice to the provision of emergency relief assistance wherever and whenever required, as the security situation allows,

Re-emphasizing the importance of the further implementation of its resolution 47/160 to rehabilitate basic social and economic services at local and regional levels throughout the country,

1. *Expresses its gratitude* to all States and the intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations that have responded to the appeals of the Secretary-General and others by extending assistance to Somalia;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for his continued and tireless efforts to mobilize assistance to the Somali people;

3. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts of the United Nations, the Organization of African Unity, the League of Arab States, the Organization of the Islamic Conference, the countries of the Horn of Africa and the States members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries to resolve the situation in Somalia;

4. *Also welcomes* the current strategy of the United Nations focusing on the implementation of community-based interventions aimed at rebuilding local infrastructures and increasing the self-reliance of the local population, as well as the ongoing efforts by the United Nations agencies and their partner organizations to establish and maintain close coordination and cooperation mechanisms for relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction in the period following the departure of the United Nations Operation in Somalia;

5. *Urges* all States and relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to continue the further implementation of resolution 47/160 in order to assist the Somali people in embarking on the rehabilitation of basic social and economic services as well as institution-building aimed at the restoration of civil administration at the local level in all those parts of the country where peace, security and stability prevail;

6. *Appeals* to all the Somali parties concerned to terminate hostilities and to engage in a national reconciliation process that will allow for the transition from relief to reconstruction and development;

7. *Calls upon* all parties, movements and factions in Somalia to respect fully the security and safety of personnel of the United Nations and its specialized agencies and of non-governmental organizations and to guarantee their complete freedom of movement throughout Somalia;

8. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to continue to mobilize international humanitarian, rehabilitation and reconstruction assistance for Somalia;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in view of the critical situation in Somalia, to take all measures necessary for the implementation of the present resolution, to apprise the

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[96] *Official Records of the Security Council, Fiftieth Year, Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1995*, document S/PRST/1995/15.

[97] A/50/447.

Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1996 of the progress made and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session.

96th plenary meeting
20 December 1995

H

ASSISTANCE TO THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 49/21 N of 20 December 1994,

Recalling also previous resolutions on the question,

Welcoming the signing at Cairo on 4 May 1994 by the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people, of the first implementation agreement of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements,[45] namely the Agreement on the Gaza Strip and the Jericho Area,[46] the Agreement on the Preparatory Transfer of Powers and Responsibilities of 29 August 1994, and the Interim Agreement on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip of 28 September 1995,

Gravely concerned about the difficult economic and employment conditions facing the Palestinian people throughout the Occupied Territory,

Conscious of the urgent need for improvement in the economic and social infrastructure of the Occupied Territory and the living conditions of the Palestinian people,

Aware that development is difficult under occupation and best promoted in circumstances of peace and stability,

Noting, in the light of the recent developments in the peace process, the great economic and social challenges and needs facing the Palestinian people and their leadership,

Conscious of the urgent necessity for international assistance to the Palestinian people, taking into account the Palestinian priorities,

Noting the convening of the United Nations Seminar on Palestinian Administrative, Managerial and Financial Needs and Challenges in the light of the new developments, held at the headquarters of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization from 28 to 30 June 1995,

Welcoming the signing of the agreements between the Palestine Liberation Organization and the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the International Labour Organization,

Stressing the need for the full engagement of the United Nations in the process of building Palestinian institutions and in providing broad assistance to the Palestinian people, including assistance in the fields of elections, police training and public administration,

Noting the appointment by the Secretary-General in June 1994 of the United Nations Special Coordinator in the Occupied Territories,

Welcoming the results of the Conference to Support Middle East Peace, convened in Washington on 1 October 1993, and the establishment of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee and the work being done by the World Bank as its secretariat, as well as the establishment of the consultative group and the convening of an international conference on economic assistance to the Palestinian people to be held in Paris,

Welcoming also the results of the meetings of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee on 29 and 30 November 1994 at Brussels, and on 27 April 1995 in Paris,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General of 13 July 1995,[98]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for his rapid response and efforts regarding assistance to the Palestinian people;

3. *Also expresses its appreciation* to the Member States, United Nations bodies and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations that have provided and continue to provide assistance to the Palestinian people;

4. *Stresses* the importance of the appointment of the United Nations Special Coordinator in the Occupied Territories and of the steps taken under the auspices of the Secretary-General to ensure the achievement of a coordinated mechanism for United Nations activities throughout the Occupied Territories;

5. *Urges* Member States, international financial institutions of the United Nations system, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and regional and interregional organizations to extend, as rapidly and as generously as possible, economic and social assistance to the Palestinian people in order to assist in the development of the West Bank and Gaza, and to do so in close cooperation with the Palestine Liberation Organization and through official Palestinian institutions;

6. *Calls upon* relevant organizations and agencies of the United Nations system to intensify their assistance in response to the urgent needs of the Palestinian people in accordance with the Palestinian priorities set forth by the Palestinian Authority, with emphasis on national execution and capacity-building;

7. *Urges* Member States to open their markets to exports from the West Bank and Gaza and on the most favourable terms, consistent with appropriate trading rules;

8. *Calls upon* the international donor community to expedite the delivery of pledged assistance to the Palestinian people to meet their urgent needs;

9. *Suggests* the convening in 1996 of a United Nations–sponsored seminar on building the Palestinian economy;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session, through the Economic and Social Council, on the implementation of the present resolution, containing:

(*a*) An assessment of the assistance actually received by the Palestinian people;

(*b*) An assessment of the needs still unmet and specific proposals for responding effectively to them;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session, under the item entitled "Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance", the sub-item entitled "Assistance to the Palestinian people".

96th plenary meeting
20 December 1995

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[98] A/50/286-E/1995/113.

I

Assistance for the reconstruction of Madagascar following the natural disasters of 1994

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 48/234 of 14 February 1994,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolutions 1994/36 of 29 July 1994 and 1995/43 of 27 July 1995,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General of 14 July 1995 relating to the implementation of resolution 48/234[99] and in particular the conclusions reached therein,

Noting with concern that, despite the efforts made by the Government of Madagascar and by the international community, in particular the organizations of the United Nations system, the resources mobilized are still inadequate, and that Madagascar remains vulnerable to the impact of natural disasters,

Noting that the implementation of the programmes for disaster prevention and for the reconstruction and rehabilitation of the areas affected by natural disasters requires the mobilization of substantial resources that are beyond the country's real means,

Noting also that each country has responsibility for natural disaster prevention and that reconstruction and rehabilitation efforts will be enhanced by continuing national development efforts,

Considering that Madagascar's sustainable development requires a long-term capacity to prepare for and prevent disasters and to overcome the residual effects of these repeated climatic phenomena, and recognizing that the assistance provided should take this into account,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General and the international community, the Department of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat and the United Nations Development Programme for the efforts they have made to supplement the action of the Government of Madagascar in the implementation of programmes for disaster prevention and for the reconstruction and rehabilitation of the areas and sectors affected by natural disasters;

2. *Urges* all States and governmental and non-governmental organizations, together with United Nations organizations, programmes and specialized agencies, in particular the international financial institutions, to increase their support to the Government of Madagascar with a view to preventing disasters and mitigating their effects on Madagascar's development process;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to mobilize the necessary resources to assist the Government of Madagascar in the reconstruction of Madagascar;

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution.

96th plenary meeting
20 December 1995

J

Emergency assistance to the Sudan

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 43/8 of 18 October 1988, 43/52 of 6 December 1988, 44/12 of 24 October 1989, 45/226 of 21 December 1990, 46/178 of 19 December 1991, 47/162 of 18 December 1992, 48/200 of 21 December 1993 and 49/21 K of 20 December 1994 on assistance to the Sudan,

Noting that, despite the progress made in Operation Lifeline Sudan, considerable relief needs still remain to be addressed, particularly in the areas of non-food assistance, including assistance to combat malaria and for logistics, emergency recovery, rehabilitation and development,

Taking note of the ongoing review of Operation Lifeline Sudan, intended to assess the effectiveness and efficiency of the operation since its launching in 1989,

Recognizing the need in emergency situations to address the continuum of relief, rehabilitation and development so as to reduce dependence on external food aid and other relief services,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General of 22 September 1995 on emergency assistance to the Sudan[100] and of the statement made by the representative of the Sudan before the General Assembly on 27 November 1995,[101]

1. *Acknowledges* the cooperation by the Government of the Sudan with the United Nations, including the agreements and arrangements achieved to facilitate relief operations through improvement of United Nations assistance to affected areas, and encourages the Government of the Sudan to continue its cooperation in this regard;

2. *Stresses* the need for the ongoing review of Operation Lifeline Sudan to assess the effectiveness and the efficiency of the operation, as well as its transparency, and for the involvement of the Government of the Sudan in its operation;

3. *Calls upon* the international community to continue to contribute generously to the emergency needs, recovery and development of the country;

4. *Calls upon* the donor community and the United Nations system to provide financial, technical and medical assistance, guided by the actions called for by the General Assembly, in its relevant resolutions, to combat malaria in the Sudan;

5. *Appeals* to all parties concerned to continue to pursue dialogue and negotiations and to terminate hostilities so as to allow for the re-establishment of peace, order and stability, and also to facilitate relief efforts;

6. *Stresses* the importance of assuring safe access for personnel providing relief assistance to all in need;

7. *Urges* all parties involved to continue to offer all feasible assistance, including facilitating the movement of relief supplies and personnel, so as to guarantee maximum success of Operation Lifeline Sudan in all parts of the country;

8. *Stresses also* that Operation Lifeline Sudan should operate within the principle of national sovereignty and the framework of international cooperation in accordance with relevant international law;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to mobilize and coordinate resources and support for Operation Lifeline Sudan, to assess the emergency situation in the country and to report thereon, as well as on the recovery and rehabilitation of the country, to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session.

98th plenary meeting
22 December 1995

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[99] A/50/292-E/1995/115.

[100] A/50/464.

[101] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Plenary Meetings*, 70th meeting, and corrigendum.

K

SPECIAL EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE FOR THE ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND RECONSTRUCTION OF BURUNDI

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 48/17 of 3 November 1993, 49/7 of 25 October 1994 and 49/21 C of 2 December 1994,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General of 11 October 1995,[102]

Considering that Burundi continues to face a social, human rights and political crisis that has existed since October 1993, the adverse effects of which are endangering the national economy, as evidenced by the destruction of economic and social infrastructures, declining production and trade and, as a result, shrinking public revenue,

Concerned about the instability of the situation in a number of areas, and acknowledging the need to ensure the safety and security of humanitarian and other international personnel,

Concerned also about the acts of violence that have the negative effect of stifling the national economy, in particular by disturbing the movement of persons, goods and services,

Recognizing that the coalition Government that emerged from the Convention on Governance[103] is making efforts to redress the economic and social situation through its plan of action of March 1995,

Convinced that the country has the capacity to achieve appreciable economic results, particularly through its structural adjustment programme, and that an improved economic situation would contribute to the consolidation of peace,

Bearing in mind, however, that, in view of Burundi's inadequate economic and financial resources, the continued and increased assistance of the international community is still essential for the implementation of the plans and programmes of the Government,

1. *Expresses its gratitude* to all States, United Nations institutions and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations that responded favourably to the appeal made at the forty-ninth session,

2. *Invites once again* all States, United Nations institutions and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to continue to provide Burundi with economic, financial, material and technical assistance for economic recovery and for the reconstruction of the various infrastructures destroyed or damaged during the crisis and to facilitate the voluntary repatriation of refugees;

3. *Calls upon* all parties not to hinder in any way efforts by international, intergovernmental and non-governmental aid organizations to transport and distribute humanitarian assistance to the people of Burundi and to take all necessary measures to ensure the safety and security of all humanitarian personnel operating in the country;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in close cooperation with the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity, to coordinate the activities being implemented by the United Nations system to meet the needs of the people of Burundi adequately and to mobilize the assistance of the international community;

5. *Requests* the Government of Burundi to continue its efforts geared towards the achievement of national reconciliation and the maintenance of lasting peace, *inter alia*, through adherence to the principles of the Convention on Governance, provisions that are essential for the successful and sustainable implementation of humanitarian aid and economic, financial, material and technical assistance to the people of Burundi;

6. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session on the implementation of the present resolution;

7. *Decides* to consider at its fifty-first session the question of special emergency assistance for the economic recovery and reconstruction of Burundi.

98th plenary meeting
22 December 1995

L

SITUATION IN RWANDA: INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE FOR A SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM OF REFUGEES, THE RESTORATION OF TOTAL PEACE, RECONSTRUCTION AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN RWANDA

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 48/211 of 21 December 1993, entitled "Emergency assistance for the socio-economic rehabilitation of Rwanda", and 49/23 of 2 December 1994, entitled "Emergency international assistance for a solution to the problem of refugees, the restoration of total peace, reconstruction and socio-economic development in war-stricken Rwanda",

Recalling also Security Council resolution 1029 (1995) of 12 December 1995 concerning the final extension of the mandate of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda and calling upon States and donor agencies to fulfil their earlier commitments to give assistance for Rwanda's rehabilitation efforts, to increase such assistance and in particular to support the early and effective functioning of the International Tribunal for Rwanda and the rehabilitation of the Rwandan judicial system,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General of 1 December 1995[104] and of the statement by the President of the Security Council of 17 October 1995[105] in connection with the consideration by the Council of the item entitled "The situation concerning Rwanda",

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General of 19 October 1995 on emergency international assistance for a solution to the problem of refugees, the restoration of total peace, reconstruction and socio-economic development in war-stricken Rwanda,[106]

Taking into consideration the serious consequences of genocide and other mass killings and of the destruction of the economic, social, educational and administrative infrastructure,

Expressing its grave concern over the disastrous humanitarian situation of the Rwandan population, including

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[102] A/50/541 and Add.1.

[103] A/50/94-S/1995/190, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fiftieth Year, Supplement for January, February and March 1995*, document S/1995/190.

[104] *Official Records of the Security Council, Fiftieth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1995*, document S/1995/1002.

[105] Ibid., *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1995*, document S/PRST/1995/53.

[106] A/50/654.

1.6 million refugees who need to be reintegrated into society and employment, and noting that several categories of refugees are also involved,

Welcoming the summit of heads of State of the Great Lakes region, held at Cairo on 28 and 29 November 1995, and their declaration of 29 November 1995,[107] and noting the United Nations support for all efforts to reduce tension and restore stability in the Great Lakes region, in particular implementation of the Cairo Declaration on the Great Lakes Region and other previously adopted commitments, and for continuing consultations with the aim of convening a conference on security, stability and development in the Great Lakes region, as appropriate,

Emphasizing the need to consider the crisis in Rwanda in a regional context, in view of its implications for the countries of the region, through the implementation of the plan of action recommended by the Government of Rwanda, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the Organization of African Unity within the framework of the Peace Agreement between the Government of the Rwandese Republic and the Rwandese Patriotic Front, signed at Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania, on 4 August 1993,[108]

Conscious that technical assistance and advisory services will assist the Government of Rwanda in reconstructing the social, legal and economic infrastructure, and that extensive assistance is required for this,

Recognizing that the Arusha Peace Agreement provides an appropriate framework for national reconciliation,

Expressing its gratitude to those States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations which have responded positively and continue to respond positively to the humanitarian and development needs of Rwanda, and to the Secretary-General, who has mobilized and coordinated the distribution of humanitarian assistance,

1. *Encourages* the Government of Rwanda to pursue its efforts with a view to creating conditions that would be conducive to the return of the refugees to their country and their resettlement and to the recovery by displaced persons of their property in peace, security and dignity;

2. *Congratulates* the Secretary-General on the efforts he has made to draw the attention of the international community to the humanitarian situation in Rwanda, requests him to provide all possible assistance and encourages him and his Special Representative to continue to coordinate the activities of the United Nations in Rwanda, including those of the organizations and agencies active in the humanitarian and developmental field and of the human rights officers;

3. *Welcomes* the increased commitments and funds pledged for the Government's Programme of National Reconciliation and Socio-Economic Rehabilitation and Recovery, and calls on the international community to continue to support Rwanda's rehabilitation process and to translate these pledges into urgent concrete assistance;

4. *Also welcomes* the commitment of the Government of Rwanda to cooperate with and to take all necessary measures to ensure the safety and security of all humanitarian personnel, including personnel of non-governmental organizations, operating in the country;

5. *Urges* all States, United Nations organizations, specialized agencies and other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and the international financial and development institutions to continue to provide all possible financial, technical and material assistance, bearing in mind that sound economic foundations are vital for achieving lasting stability in Rwanda and for the return and resettlement of Rwandan refugees;

6. *Calls upon* the international community to continue its assistance with a view to alleviating the intolerable conditions in Rwandan prisons and to expediting the processing of cases, and encourages the Government of Rwanda to continue its efforts to improve the situation in the prisons and to expedite the processing of cases;

7. *Welcomes* the indictments recently issued by the International Tribunal for Rwanda, calls upon all States to cooperate with the Tribunal, in accordance with Security Council resolutions 955 (1994) of 8 November 1994 and 978 (1995) of 27 February 1995, by arresting and detaining persons suspected of genocide and other serious violations of international humanitarian law, and encourages the Government of Rwanda to work cooperatively with the Secretary-General and the Tribunal to establish an effective protective force for the Tribunal;

8. *Urges* all States, in particular donor countries, to contribute generously to the trust fund established by the Secretary-General on 14 July 1994 to finance humanitarian relief and rehabilitation programmes to be implemented in Rwanda;

9. *Calls upon* all States to act in accordance with the recommendations adopted by the Nairobi Summit of January 1995 and the Regional Conference on Assistance to Refugees, Returnees and Displaced Persons in the Great Lakes Region, held at Bujumbura in February 1995, and with those contained in the Cairo Declaration, and to continue efforts with regard to the search for peace in the Great Lakes region;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consult with the Government of Rwanda and with the relevant United Nations agencies on the nature of a continued United Nations presence in Rwanda after 8 March 1996[109] and on the role such a United Nations presence might play in furthering the search for peace and stability through justice, reconciliation and refugee return and in assisting the Government of Rwanda in its pressing task of rehabilitation and reconstruction, and to report to the General Assembly by 1 February 1996 on the results of those consultations in addition to submitting to the Assembly at its fifty-first session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

11. *Decides* to consider at its fifty-first session the question of the situation in Rwanda: international assistance for a solution to the problem of refugees, the restoration of total peace, reconstruction and socio-economic development in Rwanda.

98th plenary meeting
22 December 1995

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[107] *Official Records of the Security Council, Fiftieth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1995*, document S/1995/1001.

[108] A/48/824-S/26915, annexes I-VII; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-eighth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1993*, document S/26915.

[109] See *Official Records of the Security Council, Fiftieth Year, Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1995*, resolution 1029 (1995).

50/59. Work of the Preparatory Committee for the Fiftieth Anniversary of the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Preparatory Committee for the Fiftieth Anniversary of the United Nations,[110]

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the national committees and to the innumerable non-governmental and other organizations around the world that have supported the goals of the anniversary;

2. *Also expresses its appreciation* to the secretariat of the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations for the series of commemorative programmes and projects it has undertaken and coordinated and for its efforts to involve national committees, non-governmental organizations and the United Nations system and staff in the global commemoration of the anniversary;

3. *Further expresses its appreciation* to those Member States, corporations and individuals that have contributed to the Trust Fund for the Fiftieth Anniversary;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the funds remaining in and which will be paid into the Trust Fund are applied to the purposes for which they were committed, and to report thereon to the General Assembly before the end of the fiftieth session;

5. *Expresses its deep appreciation* to the host country for the arrangements it made in support of the conduct of the special commemorative meeting of the General Assembly;

6. *Approves* the report of the Preparatory Committee for the Fiftieth Anniversary of the United Nations and takes note with deep appreciation of the successful conclusion of its work.

89th plenary meeting
12 December 1995

50/81. World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond

The General Assembly,

Recognizing that young people in all countries are both a major human resource for development and key agents for social change, economic development and technological innovation,

Bearing in mind that the ways in which the challenges and potentials of young people are addressed by policy will influence current social and economic conditions and the well-being and livelihood of future generations,

Acknowledging that young women and men in all parts of the world aspire to full participation in the life of society,

Recognizing that the decade since the observance of International Youth Year: Participation, Development and Peace has been a period of fundamental political, economic and sociocultural change in the world,

Acknowledging the contribution that non-governmental youth organizations could make in improving dialogue and consultations with the United Nations system on the situation of youth,

Recalling its resolution 45/103 of 14 December 1990, in which it requested the Secretary-General to prepare a draft world youth programme of action towards the year 2000 and beyond,

Recalling also its resolution 49/152 of 23 December 1994 on the International Youth Year, in which it requested the Commission for Social Development at its thirty-fourth session to consider further the draft world programme of action for youth towards the year 2000 and beyond,

Having considered the report of the Economic and Social Council,[111]

1. *Adopts* the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond, annexed hereto, as an integral part of the present resolution, including the ten priority areas identified therein, namely, education, employment, hunger and poverty, health, environment, drug abuse, juvenile delinquency, leisure-time activities, girls and young women and the full and effective participation of youth in the life of society and in decision-making;

2. *Invites* Governments, with the support of the international community, non-governmental organizations and the public and private sectors, as well as youth organizations in particular, to implement the Programme of Action by undertaking the relevant activities outlined therein;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to it at its fifty-second session, through the Commission for Social Development and the Economic and Social Council, on the progress made in the implementation of the Programme of Action, taking into account the promotion of integrated reporting;

4. *Invites* Member States, once again, to include, whenever possible, youth representatives in their delegations to the General Assembly and other meetings of relevant United Nations bodies, with a view to stimulating the participation of young women and men in the implementation of the Programme of Action.

91st plenary meeting
14 December 1995

ANNEX

World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond

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[110] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 48* (A/50/48/Rev.1 and Rev.1/Corr.1).

[111] Ibid., *Supplement No. 3* (A/50/3/Rev.1).

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PREAMBLE

1. The decade since the observance of International Youth Year: Participation, Development, Peace has been a period during which the world experienced fundamental political, economic and sociocultural changes. These changes will inevitably affect at least the first decade of the twenty-first century as well.

2. Young people represent agents, beneficiaries and victims of major societal changes and are generally confronted by a paradox: to seek to be integrated into an existing order or to serve as a force to transform that order. Young people in all parts of the world, living in countries at different stages of development and in different socio-economic settings, aspire to full participation in the life of society.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

3. The World Programme of Action for Youth provides a policy framework and practical guidelines for national action and international support to improve the situation of young people. It contains proposals for action to the year 2000 and beyond, aiming at achieving the objectives of the International Youth Year and at fostering conditions and mechanisms to promote improved well-being and livelihood among young people.

4. The Programme of Action focuses in particular on measures to strengthen national capacities in the field of youth and to increase the quality and quantity of opportunities available to young people for full, effective and constructive participation in society.

I. UNITED NATIONS DECLARATION OF INTENT ON YOUTH: PROBLEMS AND POTENTIALS

5. The States Members of the United Nations have agreed to work towards achievement of the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, *inter alia*, the promotion of higher standards of living, full employment and conditions of economic and social progress and development. Young people in all parts of the world, living in countries at different stages of development and in different socio-economic situations, aspire to full participation in the life of society, as provided in the Charter, including:

(*a*) Attainment of an educational level commensurate with their aspirations;

(*b*) Access to employment opportunities equal to their abilities;

(*c*) Food and nutrition adequate for full participation in the life of society;

(*d*) A physical and social environment that promotes good health, offers protection from disease and addiction and is free from all types of violence;

(*e*) Human rights and fundamental freedoms without distinction as to race, sex, language, religion or any other forms of discrimination;

(*f*) Participation in decision-making processes;

(*g*) Places and facilities for cultural, recreational and sports activities to improve the living standards of young people in both rural and urban areas.

6. While the peoples of the United Nations, through their Governments, international organizations and voluntary associations, have done much to ensure that these aspirations may be achieved, including efforts to implement the guidelines for further planning and suitable follow-up in the field of youth endorsed by the General Assembly in 1985,[112] it is apparent that the changing world social, economic and political situation has created the following conditions that have made this goal more difficult to achieve in many countries:

(*a*) Claims on the physical and financial resources of States, which have reduced the resources available for youth programmes and activities, particularly in heavily indebted countries;

(*b*) Inequities in social, economic and political conditions, including racism and xenophobia, which lead to increasing hunger, deterioration in living conditions and poverty among youth and to their marginalization as refugees, displaced persons and migrants;

(*c*) Increasing difficulty for young people returning from armed conflict and confrontation in integrating into the community and gaining access to education and employment;

(*d*) Continuing discrimination against young women and insufficient access for young women to equal opportunities in employment and education;

(*e*) High levels of youth unemployment, including long-term unemployment;

(*f*) Continuing deterioration of the global environment resulting from unsustainable patterns of consumption and production, particularly in industrialized countries, which is a matter of grave concern, aggravating poverty and imbalances;

(*g*) Increasing incidence of diseases, such as malaria, the human immunodeficiency virus and the acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS), and other threats to health, such as substance abuse and psychotropic substance addiction, smoking and alcoholism;

(*h*) Inadequate opportunities for vocational education and training, especially for persons with disabilities;

(*i*) Changes in the role of the family as a vehicle for shared responsibility and socialization of youth;

(*j*) Lack of opportunity for young people to participate in the life of society and contribute to its development and well-being;

(*k*) Prevalence of debilitating disease, hunger and malnutrition that engulfs the life of many young people;

(*l*) Increasing difficulty for young people to receive family life education as a basis for forming healthy families that foster sharing of responsibilities.

7. These phenomena, among others, contribute to the increased marginalization of young people from the larger society, which is dependent on youth for its continual renewal.

8. We, the peoples of the United Nations, believe that the following principles, aimed at ensuring the well-being of young women and men and their full and active participation in the society in which they live, are fundamental to the implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond:

(*a*) Every State should provide its young people with opportunities for obtaining education, for acquiring skills and for participating fully in all aspects of society, with a view to, *inter alia*, acquiring productive employment and leading self-sufficient lives;

(*b*) Every State should guarantee to all young people the full enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and other international instruments related to human rights;

(*c*) Every State should take all necessary measures to eliminate all forms of discrimination against young women and girls and remove all obstacles to gender equality and the advancement and empowerment of women and should ensure full and equal access to education and employment for girls and young women;

(*d*) Every State should foster mutual respect, tolerance and understanding among young people with different racial, cultural and religious backgrounds;

(*e*) Every State should endeavour to ensure that its policies relating to young people are informed by accurate data on their situation and needs, and that the public has access to such data to enable it to participate in a meaningful fashion in the decision-making process;

(*f*) Every State is encouraged to promote education and action aimed at fostering among youth a spirit of peace, cooperation and mutual respect and understanding between nations;

(*g*) Every State should meet the special needs of young people in the areas of responsible family-planning practice, family life, sexual and reproductive health, sexually transmitted diseases, HIV infection and AIDS prevention, consistent with the Programme of Action adopted by the International Conference on Population and Development in September 1994,[113] the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action adopted by the World Summit for Social Development in March 1995,[114] and the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women in September 1995;[115]

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[112] See A/40/256, annex.

(*h*) Environmental protection, promotion and enhancement are among the issues considered by young people to be of prime importance to the future welfare of society. States should therefore actively encourage young people and youth organizations to participate actively in programmes, including educational programmes, and actions designed to protect, promote and enhance the environment;

(*i*) Every State should take measures to develop the possibilities of education and employment of young people with disabilities;

(*j*) Every State should take measures to improve the situation of young people living in particularly difficult conditions, including by protecting their rights;

(*k*) Every State should promote the goal of full employment as a basic priority of its economic and social policies, giving special attention to youth employment. They should also take measures to eliminate the economic exploitation of children;

(*l*) Every State should provide young people with the health services necessary to ensure their physical and mental well-being, including measures to combat diseases such as malaria and HIV/AIDS, and to protect them from harmful drugs and the effects of addiction to drugs, tobacco and alcohol;

(*m*) Every State should place people at the centre of development and should direct their economies to meet human needs more effectively and to ensure that young people are active participants and beneficiaries in the process of development.

II. DEVELOPMENT SETTING

9. In 1995, the world youth population—defined by the United Nations as the age cohort 15-24—is estimated to be 1.03 billion, or 18 per cent of the total world population. The majority of the world youth population (84 per cent in 1995) lives in developing countries. This figure is projected to increase to 89 per cent by 2025. The difficult circumstances that people experience in many developing countries are often even more difficult for young people because of limited opportunities for education and training, viable employment and health and social services, and because of a growing incidence of substance abuse and juvenile delinquency. Many developing countries are also experiencing unprecedented rates of rural-urban migration by young people.

10. Apart from the statistical definition of the term "youth" mentioned above, the meaning of the term "youth" varies in different societies around the world. Definitions of youth have changed continuously in response to fluctuating political, economic and sociocultural circumstances.

11. Young people in industrialized countries comprise a relatively smaller proportion of the total population because of generally lower birth rates and longer life expectancy. They comprise a social group that faces particular problems and uncertainties regarding its future, problems that relate in part to limited opportunities for appropriate employment.

12. Young people in all countries are both a major human resource for development and key agents for social change, economic development and technological innovation. Their imagination, ideals, considerable energies and vision are essential for the continuing development of the societies in which they live. Thus, there is special need for new impetus to be given to the design and implementation of youth policies and programmes at all levels. The ways in which the challenges and potentials of young people are addressed by policy will influence current social and economic conditions and the well-being and livelihood of future generations.

III. STRATEGIES AND POLICY SPECIFICS

13. In 1965, in resolution 2037 (XX), the General Assembly endorsed the Declaration on the Promotion among Youth of the Ideals of Peace, Mutual Respect and Understanding between Peoples. From 1965 to 1975, both the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council emphasized three basic themes in the field of youth: participation, development and peace. The need for an international policy on youth was emphasized as well. In 1979, the General Assembly, by resolution 34/151, designated 1985 as International Youth Year: Participation, Development, Peace. In 1985, by resolution 40/14, the Assembly endorsed the guidelines for further planning and suitable follow-up in the field of youth.[112] The guidelines are significant for their focus on young people as a broad category comprising various subgroups, rather than a single demographic entity. They provide proposals for specific measures to address the needs of subgroups such as young people with disabilities, rural and urban youth and young women.

14. The themes identified by the General Assembly for International Youth Year: Participation, Development, Peace reflect a predominant concern of the international community with distributive justice, popular participation and quality of life. These were reflected in the guidelines, and they represent overall themes of the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond as well.

15. The Programme of Action also builds upon other, recent international instruments, including the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development,[116] the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights,[33] the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,[113] the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development,[114] and the Platform for Action adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women.[115]

16. The Programme of Action is drawn from these international instruments generally and specifically related to youth policies and programmes. The Programme of Action is significant because it provides a cross-sectoral standard relating to both policy-making and programme design and delivery. It will serve as a model for integrated actions, at all levels, to address more effectively problems experienced by young people in various conditions and to enhance their participation in society.

17. The Programme of Action is divided into three phases: the first phase focused on analysis and on drafting the Programme of Action and on its adoption by the General Assembly at its fiftieth session, in 1995; the second phase is concerned with worldwide implementation of the Programme of Action to the year 2000; the third phase, covering the period 2001 to 2010, will focus on further implementation and evaluation of progress made and obstacles encountered; it will suggest appropriate adjustments to long-term objectives and specific measures to improve the situation of young people in the societies in which they live.

IV. PRIORITY AREAS

18. Each of the ten priority areas identified by the international community is presented in terms of principal issues, specific objectives and the actions proposed to be taken by various actors to achieve those objectives. Objectives and actions reflect the three themes of International Youth Year: Participation, Development, Peace; they are interlinked and mutually reinforcing.

19. The ten fields of action identified by the international community are education, employment, hunger and poverty, health, environment, drug abuse, juvenile delinquency, leisure-time activities, girls and young women and the full and effective participation of youth in the life of society and in decision-making. The Programme of Action does not exclude the possibility of new priorities which may be identified in the future.

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[113] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[114] A/CONF.166/9, chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[115] See A/CONF.177/20, chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[116] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992* (A/CONF.151/26/Rev.1 (Vol. I and Vol. I/Corr.1, Vol. II, Vol. III and Vol. III/Corr.1)) (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex I.

20. Implementation of the Programme of Action requires the full enjoyment by young people of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, and also requires that Governments take effective action against violations of these rights and freedoms and promote non-discrimination, tolerance, respect for diversity, with full respect for various religious and ethical values, cultural backgrounds and philosophical convictions of their young people, equality of opportunity, solidarity, security and participation of all young women and men.

A. *Education*

21. Although progress towards universal basic education, beginning with literacy, has been impressive in recent times, the number of illiterate people will continue to grow and many developing countries are likely to fall short of universal primary education by the year 2000. Three main concerns regarding current systems of education may be expressed. The first is the inability of many parents in developing countries to send their children to schools because of local economic and social conditions. The second concerns the paucity of educational opportunities for girls and young women, migrants, refugees, displaced persons, street children, indigenous youth minorities, young people in rural areas and young people with disabilities. The third concerns the quality of education, its relevance to employment and its usefulness in assisting young people in the transition to full adulthood, active citizenship and productive and gainful employment.

22. To encourage the development of educational and training systems more in line with the current and future needs of young people and their societies, it would be helpful to share experience and to investigate alternative arrangements, such as informal arrangements for the provision of basic literacy, job skills training and lifelong education.

23. Opportunities for young people to pursue advanced or university education, engage in research or be trained for self-employment should be expanded in developing countries. Given the economic problems faced by such countries and the inadequacy of international assistance in this area, it is difficult to provide appropriate training for all young people, even though they are a country's chief economic asset.

24. Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations are called upon to assist young people from developing countries to obtain education and training at all levels in developed as well as in developing countries, as well as to participate in mutual academic exchanges among developing countries.

Proposals for action

1. *Improving the level of basic education, skill training and literacy among youth*

25. Priority should be given to achieving the goal of ensuring basic education for all (beginning with literacy), mobilizing for that purpose all channels, agents and forms of education and training, in line with the concept of lifelong education. Special emphasis should also be given to the reform of education content and curricula, especially curricula that reinforce traditional female roles which deny women opportunities for full and equal partnership in society, at all levels, focusing on scientific literacy, moral values and learning of skills, adapted to the changing environment and to life in multi-ethnic and multicultural societies. The importance of the development of information skills, that is, skills for researching, accessing and using information, and informatics should be emphasized, along with the importance of distance education. Non-governmental youth organizations and educational organizations should develop youth-to-youth programmes for basic education, skills training and literacy. Consideration should be given to developing programmes enabling retired and elderly people to teach literacy to young people. Particular attention should be given to specific groups of youth in distressed circumstances, including indigenous, migrant and refugee youth, displaced persons, street children and poor youth in urban and rural areas, as well as to special problems, including literacy problems, for blind youth and youth with other disabilities.

2. *Cultural heritage and contemporary patterns of society*

26. Governments should establish or strengthen programmes to educate young people in the cultural heritage of their own and other societies and the world. Governments should institute, in cooperation with non-governmental youth organizations, travel and exchange programmes and youth camps to help youth understand cultural diversity at both the national and international levels, develop intercultural learning skills and participate in the preservation of the cultural heritage of their own and other societies and the world around them. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, in cooperation with interested Governments and non-governmental organizations, is requested to expand international programmes, such as youth camps, by which young people, particularly those from developing countries, with different cultures, may help restore major international cultural sites and engage in other cultural activities.

3. *Promoting mutual respect and understanding and the ideals of peace, solidarity and tolerance among youth*

27. Programmes aimed at learning peacemaking and conflict resolution should be encouraged and designed by Governments and educational institutions for introduction to schools at all levels. Children and youth should be informed of cultural differences in their own societies and given opportunities to learn about different cultures as well as tolerance and mutual respect for cultural and religious diversity. Governments and educational institutions should formulate and implement educational programmes which promote and strengthen respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms and enhance the values of peace, solidarity, tolerance, responsibility and respect for the diversity and rights of others.

4. *Vocational and professional training*

28. Governments and educational institutions, in cooperation with regional and international organizations, could establish or enhance vocational and technical training relevant to current and prospective employment conditions. Youth must be given the opportunity to access vocational and professional training and apprenticeship programmes that help them acquire entry-level jobs with growth opportunities and the ability to adjust to changes in labour demand.

5. *Promoting human rights education*

29. Governments should ensure that the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education, which began in 1995, is adequately observed in schools and educational institutions. In order to make youth aware of their civil, cultural, economic, political and social rights, as well as their societal responsibilities, and in order to develop harmonious intercommunity relations, mutual tolerance and respect, equality between women and men, and tolerance for diversity, Governments should develop human rights education strategies targeted at youth, taking particular account of the human rights of women.

6. *Training for enterprise programmes*

30. Governments, in cooperation with regional and international organizations, should formulate model training programmes for youth in individual and cooperative enterprises. They are encouraged to establish self-contained enterprise centres where young people may plan and test their enterprise venture concepts.

7. *Infrastructure for training youth workers and youth leaders*

31. Governments should assess the adequacy of facilities and programmes to train youth workers and youth leaders, including the adequacy of curricula and staff resources. On the basis of such assessments, Governments should plan and implement relevant training programmes. Non-governmental youth organizations should be encouraged and assisted in formulating and disseminating model training courses for use by member organizations.

32. Interested organizations should investigate possibilities of strengthening international youth worker and youth leadership training, with priority given to accepting participants from developing countries. In cooperation with concerned organizations that provide training opportunities for youth, including internships and volunteer programmes, establishment of an inventory of such programmes could also be explored.

B. *Employment*

33. Unemployment and underemployment among youth is a problem everywhere. It is, indeed, part of the larger struggle to create employment opportunities for all citizens. The problem has worsened in recent years because of the global recession which has affected developing countries the most seriously. The disturbing fact is that economic growth is not always accompanied by growth in employment. The difficulty of finding suitable employment is compounded by a host of other problems confronting young people, including illiteracy and insufficient training, and is worsened by periods of world economic slow-down and by overall changing economic trends. In some countries, the influx of young people into the employment market has

brought with it acute problems. According to estimates of the International Labour Organization, more than one hundred million new jobs would have to be created within the next twenty years in order to provide suitable employment for the growing number of young people in the economically active populations of developing countries. The situation of girls and young women, as well as of young people with disabilities, refugee youth, displaced persons, street children, indigenous youth, migrant youth and minorities, warrants urgent attention, bearing in mind the prohibition of forced labour and child labour.

34. The crisis of youth unemployment deprives young people of the opportunity to secure independent housing or the accommodations necessary for the establishment of families and participation in the life of society. Advances in technology and communications, coupled with improved productivity, have imposed new challenges as well as new opportunities for employment. Young people are among the most severely affected by these developments. If effective solutions are not found, the cost to society will be much higher in the long run. Unemployment creates a wide range of social ills and young people are particularly susceptible to its damaging effects: the lack of skills, low self-esteem, marginalization, impoverishment and the wasting of an enormous human resource.

Proposals for action

1. *Opportunities for self-employment*

35. Governments and organizations should create or promote grant schemes to provide seed money to encourage and support enterprise and employment programmes for young people. Businesses and enterprises could be encouraged to provide counterpart financial and technical support for such schemes. Cooperative schemes involving young people in production and marketing of goods and services could be considered. The formation of youth development banks could be considered. The Committee for the Promotion and Advancement of Cooperatives is encouraged to develop models for cooperatives run by youth in developed and developing countries. Such models could include guidelines for management training and training in entrepreneurial techniques and marketing.

2. *Employment opportunities for specific groups of young people*

36. Within funds designated to promote youth employment, Governments should, as appropriate, designate resources for programmes supporting the efforts of young women, young people with disabilities, youth returning from military service, migrant youth, refugee youth, displaced persons, street children and indigenous youth. Youth organizations and young people themselves should be directly involved in the planning and implementation of these programmes.

3. *Voluntary community services involving youth*

37. Where they do not already exist, Governments should consider the establishment of voluntary service programmes for youth. Such programmes could provide alternatives to military service, or might constitute a required element in educational curricula, depending on national policies and priorities. Youth camps, community service projects, environmental protection and inter-generational cooperation programmes should be included among the opportunities offered. Youth organizations should be directly involved in designing, planning, implementing and evaluating such voluntary service programmes. In addition, international cooperation programmes organized between youth organizations in developed and developing countries should be included to promote intercultural understanding and development training.

4. *Needs created by technological changes*

38. Governments, in particular those of developed countries, should encourage the creation of employment opportunities for young people in fields that are rapidly evolving as a result of technological innovation. A subset of the employment data compiled by Governments should track the employment of youth into those fields marked by newly emerging technologies. Measures should be taken to provide ongoing training for youth in this area.

39. Special attention should be paid to developing and disseminating approaches that promote flexibility in training systems and collaboration between training institutions and employers, especially for young people in high-technology industries.

C. *Hunger and poverty*

40. Over one billion people in the world today live in unacceptable conditions of poverty, mostly in developing countries, particularly in rural areas of low-income countries in Asia and the Pacific, Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean and the least developed countries. Poverty has various manifestations: hunger and malnutrition; ill health; limited or lack of access to education and other basic services; increased morbidity and mortality from illness; homelessness and inadequate housing; unsafe environments; and social discrimination and exclusion; it is also characterized by a lack of participation in decision-making and in civil and sociocultural life. Poverty is inseparably linked to lack of access to or loss of control over resources, including land, skills, knowledge, capital and social connections. Without those resources, people have limited access to institutions, markets, employment and public services. Young people are particularly affected by this situation. Therefore, specific measures are needed to address the juvenilization and feminization of poverty.

41. Hunger and malnutrition remain among the most serious and intractable threats to humanity, often preventing youth and children from taking part in society. Hunger is the result of many factors: mismanagement of food production and distribution; poor accessibility; maldistribution of financial resources; unwise exploitation of natural resources; unsustainable patterns of consumption; environmental pollution; natural and human-made disasters; conflicts between traditional and contemporary production systems; irrational population growth; and armed conflicts.

Proposals for action

1. *Making farming more rewarding and life in agricultural areas more attractive*

42. Governments should enhance educational and cultural services and other incentives in rural areas to make them more attractive to young people. Experimental farming programmes directed towards young people should be initiated and extension services expanded to maintain improvements in agricultural production and marketing.

43. Local and national Governments, in cooperation with youth organizations, should organize cultural events that enhance exchanges between urban and rural youth. Youth organizations should be encouraged and assisted in organizing conventions and meetings in rural areas, with special efforts to enlist the cooperation of rural populations, including rural youth.

2. *Skill training for income generation by young people*

44. Governments, in cooperation with youth organizations, should develop training programmes for youth which improve methods of agricultural production and marketing. Training should be based on rural economic needs and the need to train young people in rural areas in techniques of food production and the achievement of food security. Attention should be given in such programmes to young women, youth retention in rural areas, youth returning to rural areas from the cities, young people with disabilities, refugee and migrant youth, displaced persons and street children, indigenous youth, youth returning from military service and youth living in areas of resolved conflicts.

3. *Land grants for young people*

45. Governments should provide grants of land to youth and youth organizations, supported by financial and technical assistance and training. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the International Labour Organization are invited to document and disseminate information about national experience with land-grant and settlement schemes for use by Governments.

46. Governments, consistent with their rural development schemes and with the assistance of international organizations, as appropriate, are encouraged to work with volunteer youth organizations on projects which enhance and maintain the rural and urban environments.

4. *Cooperation between urban and rural youth in food production and distribution*

47. Non-governmental organizations should organize direct-marketing groups, including production and distribution cooperatives, to improve current marketing systems and to ensure that young farmers have access to them. The aim of such groups should be to reduce food shortages and losses from defective systems of food storage and transport to markets.

D. *Health*

48. Young people in some parts of the world suffer from poor health as a result of societal conditions, including such factors as customary attitudes and harmful traditional practices, and, in some cases,

as a result of their own actions. Poor health is often caused by an unhealthy environment, by missing support systems in everyday life for health-promoting patterns of behaviour, by lack of information and by inadequate or inappropriate health services. Problems include the lack of a safe and sanitary living environment, malnutrition, the risk of infectious, parasitic and water-borne diseases, the growing consumption of tobacco, alcohol and drugs, and unwarranted risk-taking and destructive activity, resulting in unintentional injuries.

49. The reproductive health needs of adolescents have been largely ignored. In many countries, there is a lack of information and services available to adolescents to help them understand their sexuality, including sexual and reproductive health, and to protect them from unwanted pregnancies and sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS.

Proposals for action

1. *Provision of basic health services*

50. All young people should have access to basic health services in the interest of all and of society as a whole. It is the indispensable responsibility of each Government to mobilize the necessary awareness, resources and channels. These measures should be supported by a favourable international economic environment and by cooperation.

51. Efforts should be expedited to achieve the goals of national health-for-all strategies, based on equality and social justice, in line with the Declaration of Alma Ata on primary health care[117] adopted on 12 September 1978 by the International Conference on Primary Health Care, by developing or updating country action plans or programmes to ensure universal, non-discriminatory access to basic health services, including sanitation and drinking water, to protect health, and to promote nutrition education and preventive health programmes.

52. Support should be provided for stronger, better-coordinated global actions against major diseases which take a heavy toll of human lives, such as malaria, tuberculosis, cholera, typhoid fever and HIV/AIDS; in this context, support should be continued for the Joint and Co-sponsored United Nations Programme on the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS).

53. Poor health is often caused by lack of information and lack of health services for youth, mostly in developing countries. The resulting problems are, among others, sexually transmitted diseases, including infection with HIV; early pregnancies; lack of hygiene and sanitation, leading to infection, infestation and diarrhoea; genetic and congenital diseases; psychological and mental diseases; narcotic and psychotropic drug abuse; misuse of alcohol and tobacco; unwarranted risk-taking and destructive activity, resulting in unintentional injuries; malnutrition; and poor spacing of births.

2. *Development of health education*

54. Governments should include, in the curricula of educational institutions at the primary and secondary levels, programmes focusing on primary health knowledge and practices. Particular emphasis should be placed on the understanding of basic hygiene requirements and the need to develop and sustain a healthy environment. These programmes need to be developed in full awareness of the needs and priorities of young people and with their involvement.

55. Cooperation among Governments and educational and health institutions should be encouraged in order to promote personal responsibility for a healthy lifestyle and provide the knowledge and skills necessary to adopt a healthy lifestyle, including teaching the legal, social and health consequences of behaviour that poses health risks.

3. *Promotion of health services, including sexual and reproductive health and development of relevant education programmes in those fields*

56. Governments, with the involvement of youth and other relevant organizations, should ensure the implementation of the commitments made in the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,[113] as established in the report of that Conference, in the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action of the World Summit on Social Development,[114] and in the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action for the Fourth World Conference on Women,[115] as well as in the relevant human rights instruments, to meet the health needs of youth. The United Nations Population Fund and other interested United Nations organizations should continue to take effective steps on these issues. The reproductive health needs of adolescents as a group have been largely ignored to date by existing reproductive health services. The response of societies to the reproductive health needs of adolescents should be based on information that helps them attain a level of maturity required to make responsible decisions. In particular, information and services should be made available to adolescents to help them understand their sexuality and protect them from unwanted pregnancies, sexually transmitted diseases and the subsequent risk of infertility. This should be combined with the education of young men to respect women's self-determination and to share responsibility with women in matters of sexuality and reproduction. This effort is uniquely important for the health of young women and their children, for women's self-determination and, in many countries, for efforts to slow the momentum of population growth. Motherhood at a very young age entails a risk of maternal death that is much greater than average, and the children of young mothers have higher levels of morbidity and mortality. Early child-bearing continues to be an impediment to improvements in the educational, economic and social status of women in all parts of the world. Overall for young women, early marriage and early motherhood can severely curtail educational and employment opportunities and are likely to have a long-term adverse impact on the quality of life of young women and their children.

57. Governments should develop comprehensive sexual and reproductive health-care services and provide young people with access to those services including, *inter alia*, education and services in family planning consistent with the results of the International Conference on Population and Development, the World Summit for Social Development and the Fourth World Conference on Women. The United Nations Population Fund and other interested United Nations organizations are to be encouraged to continue assigning high priority to promoting adolescent reproductive health.

4. *HIV infection and AIDS among young people*

58. Governments should develop accessible, available and affordable primary health care services of high quality, including sexual and reproductive health care, as well as education programmes, including those related to sexually transmitted disease, including HIV/AIDS, for youth. Continued international cooperation and collective global efforts are necessary for the containment of HIV/AIDS.

5. *Promotion of good sanitation and hygiene practices*

59. Governments, in cooperation with youth and volunteer organizations, should promote the establishment of youth health associations to promote good sanitation and hygiene programmes.

6. *Prevention of disease and illness among youth resulting from poor health practices*

60. Governments, in cooperation with youth organizations, should promote healthier lifestyles and, in this context, should investigate the possibility of adopting policies for discouraging drug, tobacco and alcohol abuse, including possibly banning the advertisement of tobacco and alcohol. They should also undertake programmes to inform young people about the adverse effects of drug and alcohol abuse and tobacco addiction.

61. Programmes should be instituted, with the appropriate assistance of the United Nations bodies and organizations concerned, to train medical, paramedical, educational and youth work personnel in health issues of particular concern to young people, including healthy lifestyles. Research into such issues should be promoted, particularly research into the effects and treatment of drug abuse and addiction. Youth organizations should be enlisted in these efforts.

7. *Elimination of sexual abuse of young people*

62. As recommended by the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,[33] the International Conference on Population and Development,[113] the World Summit for Social Development[114] and the Fourth World Conference on Women,[115] and bearing in mind that young women are specially vulnerable, Governments should cooperate at the international level and take effective steps, including specific preventive measures to protect children, adolescents and youth from neglect, abandonment and all types of exploitation and abuse, such as abduction, rape and incest, pornography, trafficking and acts of paedophilia, as well as from commercial sexual exploitation resulting from pornog-

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[117] E/ICEF/L.1387, annex, sect. V.

raphy and prostitution.[118] Governments should enact and enforce legislation prohibiting female genital mutilation wherever it exists and give vigorous support to efforts among non-governmental and community organizations and religious institutions to eliminate such practices.[119]

8. *Combating malnutrition among young people*

63. Governments should promote post-primary-school and out-of-school health projects by individuals and youth organizations, emphasizing information on healthy eating practices. School lunch programmes, provision of food supplements and similar services should be available whenever possible to help ensure a proper diet for young people.

E. *Environment*

64. The deterioration of the natural environment is one of the principal concerns of young people worldwide as it has direct implications for their well-being both now and in the future. The natural environment must be maintained and preserved for both present and future generations. The causes of environmental degradation must be addressed. The environmentally friendly use of natural resources and environmentally sustainable economic growth will improve human life. Sustainable development has become a key element in the programmes of youth organizations throughout the world. While every segment of society is responsible for maintaining the environmental integrity of the community, young people have a special interest in maintaining a healthy environment because they will be the ones to inherit it.

Proposals for action

1. *Integration of environmental education and training into education and training programmes*

65. Emphasis should be given in school curricula to environmental education. Training programmes should be provided to inform teachers of the environmental aspects of their subject-matter and to enable them to educate youth concerning environmentally friendly habits.

66. The participation of youth groups in gathering environmental data and in understanding ecological systems and actual environmental action should be encouraged as a means of improving both their knowledge of the environment and their personal engagement in caring for the environment.

2. *Facilitating the international dissemination of information on environmental issues to, and the use of environmentally sound technologies by, youth*

67. The United Nations Environment Programme, in cooperation with Governments and non-governmental youth organizations, is invited to intensify production of information materials illustrating the global dimension, its origins and the interrelated effects of environmental degradation, describing the outcome of initiatives undertaken in developing and developed countries as well as countries with economies in transition. The United Nations Environment Programme is requested to continue its efforts to disseminate information to and exchange information with youth organizations. Governments should encourage and assist youth organizations to initiate and develop youth-to-youth contacts through town-twinning and similar programmes in order to share the experience gained in different countries.

68. Relevant United Nations organizations and institutions and Governments of technologically advanced countries are encouraged to help spread the use of environmentally sound technologies in developing countries and in countries with economies in transition and to train youth in making use of such technologies in protecting and conserving the environment.

3. *Strengthening participation of youth in the protection, preservation and improvement of the environment*

69. Governments and youth organizations should initiate programmes to promote participation in tree planting, forestry, combating desert creep, waste reduction, recycling and other sound environmental practices. The participation of young people and their organizations in such programmes can provide good training and encourage awareness and action. Waste management programmes may represent potential income-generating activities which provide opportunities for employment.

70. As recognized by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, the involvement of youth in environment and development decision-making is critical to the implementation of policies of sustainable development. Young people should be involved in designing and implementing appropriate environmental policies.

4. *Enhancing the role of the media as a tool for widespread dissemination of environmental issues to youth*

71. Governments should, to the extent consistent with freedom of expression, encourage the media and advertising agencies to develop programmes to ensure widespread dissemination of information on environmental issues in order to continue to raise awareness thereof among youth.

72. Governments should establish procedures allowing for consultation and possible participation of youth of both genders in decision-making processes with regard to the environment, at the local, national and regional levels.

F. *Drug abuse*

73. The vulnerability of young people to drug abuse has in recent years become a major concern. The consequences of widespread drug abuse and trafficking, particularly for young men and women, are all too apparent. Violence, particularly street violence, often results from drug abuse and illicit drug networks.

74. As the number of psychotropic drugs increases steadily and their effects and appropriate prescriptive uses are often not fully known, some patients may not be adequately treated and others may become over-medicated. Abuse of prescription drugs and self-medication with tranquillizers, sleeping-pills and stimulants can also create serious problems, particularly in countries and regions where distribution controls are weak and habit-forming drugs are purchased abroad or diverted from licit channels of distribution. In this context, the vulnerability of young people raises a particular problem and specific measures are therefore needed.

75. The international community places particular emphasis on reducing the demand for and supply of illegal drugs and preventing abuse. Supply reduction includes combating international illicit drug trafficking. Drug abuse prevention initiatives range from discouraging people from taking drugs, thus preventing involuntary addiction, to helping those who are abusing drugs to stop doing so. Treatment programmes need to recognize that drug abuse is a chronic relapsing condition. It is essential for programmes to be adapted to the social and cultural context and for there to be effective cooperation between various approaches to treatment. To this end, national initiatives and measures to combat illicit drug trafficking should be fully supported and reinforced at the regional and international levels.

76. Drug control strategies at the national and international levels consistently emphasize initiatives aimed at reducing drug abuse among young people. This is reflected in the resolutions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and in the demand reduction programmes of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme.

Proposals for action

1. *Participation of youth organizations and youth in demand reduction programmes for young people*

77. To be effective, demand reduction programmes should be targeted at all young people, particularly those at risk, and the content of the programmes should respond directly to the interests and concerns of those young people. Preventive education programmes showing the dangers of drug abuse are particularly important. Increasing opportunities for gainful employment and activities which provide recreation and opportunities to develop a variety of skills are important in helping young people to resist drugs. Youth organizations can play a key role in designing and implementing education programmes and individual counselling to encourage the integration of youth into the community, to develop healthy lifestyles and to raise awareness of the damaging impact of drugs. The programmes could include training of youth leaders in communication and counselling skills.

78. Government entities, in cooperation with relevant agencies of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations, particularly youth organizations, should cooperate in carrying out demand reduction programmes for illicit drugs, tobacco and alcohol.

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[118] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex, para. 6.9.

[119] Ibid., para. 4.22.

2. *Training medical and paramedical students in the rational use of pharmaceuticals containing narcotic drugs or psychotropic substances*

79. The World Health Organization, associations of the medical, paramedical and pharmaceutical professions and pharmaceutical corporations and medical faculties and institutions could be asked to develop model training courses and disseminate information material for young medical and paramedical students on the proper handling of drugs and the early identification and diagnosis of substance abuse.

3. *Treatment and rehabilitation of young people who are drug abusers or drug-dependent and young alcoholics and tobacco users*

80. Research has been undertaken into the possibility of identifying medication to block cravings for specific drugs without creating secondary dependency, but much remains to be done in this area. The need for medical and social research in the prevention and treatment of substance abuse, as well as rehabilitation, has become more urgent, particularly with the worldwide increase in abuse and addiction among young people. In such research, emphasis should be given to the fact that intravenous substance abuse raises the risk of contracting communicable diseases, including HIV/AIDS and hepatitis, arising from the sharing of needles and other injection equipment. The fruits of all such research should be shared globally.

81. Research on issues such as the medical treatment and the rehabilitation of young drug abusers, including the combination of different types of treatment, the problem of recidivism and the administrative aspects of drug treatment, and the inclusion of students in the relevant faculties in such research, should be encouraged.

82. In cooperation with the institutions of civil society and the private sector, drug abuse prevention should be promoted, as should preventive education for children and youth and rehabilitation and education programmes for former drug and alcohol addicts, especially children and youth, in order to enable them to obtain productive employment and achieve the independence, dignity and responsibility for a drug-free, crime-free productive life. Of particular interest is the development of treatment techniques involving the family setting and peer groups. Young people can make significant contributions by participating in peer group therapy to facilitate the acceptance of young drug-dependent persons and abusers upon their re-entry into society. Direct participation in rehabilitation therapy entails close cooperation between youth groups and other community and health services. The World Health Organization and other worldwide medical and mental health organizations could be requested to set guidelines for continuing research and for carrying out comparable programmes in different settings, whose effectiveness could be evaluated over a given period of time.

4. *Care for young drug abusers and drug-dependent suspects and offenders in the criminal justice and prison system*

83. Authorities should consider strategies to prevent exposure to drug abuse and dependence among young people suspected or convicted of criminal offences. Such strategies could include alternative measures, such as daily reporting to police stations, regular visits to parole officers or the fulfilment of a specified number of hours of community service.

84. Prison authorities should cooperate closely with law enforcement agencies to keep drugs out of the prison system. Prison personnel should be discouraged from tolerating the presence of drugs in penal institutions.

85. Young prisoners who are already drug-dependent should be targeted as priority candidates for treatment and rehabilitation services and should be segregated as appropriate. Guidelines and standard minimum rules should be prepared to assist national authorities in law enforcement and prison systems in maintaining the necessary controls and initiating treatment and rehabilitation services. Action along these lines constitutes a long-term advantage to society, as the cycle of dependence, release, repeated offences and repeated incarcerations constitutes a heavy burden on the criminal justice system, quite apart from the wasted lives and personal tragedies which result from drug dependence and criminal behaviour.

G. *Juvenile delinquency*

86. Juvenile crime and delinquency are serious problems all over the world. Their intensity and gravity depend mostly on the social, economic and cultural conditions in each country. There is evidence, however, of an apparent worldwide increase in juvenile criminality combined with economic recession, especially in marginal sectors of urban centres. In many cases, youth offenders are "street children" who have been exposed to violence in their immediate social environment, either as observers or as victims. Their basic education, when they have it, is poor; their primary socialization from the family is too often inadequate; and their socio-economic environment is shaped by poverty and destitution. Rather than relying solely on the criminal justice system, approaches to the prevention of violence and crime should thus include measures to support equality and justice, to combat poverty and to reduce hopelessness among young people.

Proposals for action

1. *Priority to preventive measures*

87. Governments should give priority to issues and problems of juvenile delinquency and youth criminality, with particular attention to preventive policies and programmes. Rural areas should be provided with adequate socio-economic opportunities and administrative services which could discourage young people from migrating to urban areas. Youth from poor urban settings should have access to specific educational, employment and leisure programmes, particularly during long school holidays. Young people who drop out of school or come from broken families should benefit from specific social programmes that help them build self-esteem and confidence conducive to responsible adulthood.

2. *Prevention of violence*

88. Governments and other relevant organizations, particularly youth organizations, should consider organizing information campaigns and educational and training programmes in order to sensitize youth to the personally and socially detrimental effects of violence in the family, community and society, to teach them how to communicate without violence and to promote training so that they can protect themselves and others against violence. Governments should also develop programmes to promote tolerance and better understanding among youth, with a view to eradicating contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and thereby preventing violence.

89. To prevent violence and crime, the development of social organization, particularly through youth organizations and community involvement, should be fostered by a supportive social policy and within a legal framework. Government assistance should focus on facilitating the ability of community and youth organizations to express and evaluate their needs concerning the prevention of violence and crime, to formulate and implement actions for themselves and to cooperate with each other.

3. *Rehabilitation services and programmes*

90. Destitution, poor living conditions, inadequate education, malnutrition, illiteracy, unemployment and lack of leisure-time activities are factors that marginalize young people, which makes some of them vulnerable to exploitation as well as to involvement in criminal and other deviant behaviour. If preventive measures address the very causes of criminality, rehabilitation programmes and services should be made available to those who already have a criminal history. In general, youth delinquency begins with petty offences such as robbery or violent behaviour, which can be easily traced by and corrected through institutions and community and family environments. Indeed, law enforcement should be a part of rehabilitation measures. Finally, the human rights of young people who are imprisoned should be protected and principles of penal majority according to penal laws should be given great attention.

H. *Leisure-time activities*

91. The importance of leisure-time activities in the psychological, cognitive and physical development of young people is recognized in all societies. Leisure-time activities include games, sports, cultural events, entertainment and community service. Appropriate leisure programmes for youth are elements of any measure aimed at fighting social ills such as drug abuse, juvenile delinquency and other deviant behaviour. While leisure programmes can contribute greatly to the development of the physical, intellectual and emotional potential of young people, they should be designed with due care and concern so that they are not used as a means for excluding youth from participating in other aspects of social life or for indoctrinating them. Leisure-time activity programmes should be made freely available to young people.

Proposals for action

1. *Leisure-time activities as an integral part of youth policies and programmes*

92. Governments, in planning, designing and implementing youth policies and programmes, with the active involvement of youth organizations, should recognize the importance of leisure-time activities. The importance given to such activities should be reflected in appropriate funding.

93. Governments are invited to establish public libraries, cultural centres and other cultural facilities in rural and urban areas, with the aid of international organizations, and to provide assistance to young people active in the fields of drama, the fine arts, music and other forms of cultural expression.

94. Governments are invited to encourage the participation of young people in tourism, international cultural events, sports and all other activities of special interest to youth.

2. *Leisure-time activities as elements of educational programmes*

95. Governments, by providing adequate funding to educational institutions for the establishment of leisure-time activities, may accord priority to such activities. In addition, leisure-time activities could be integrated into the regular school curriculum.

3. *Leisure-time activities in urban planning and rural development*

96. National Governments as well as local authorities and community development agencies should incorporate leisure-time activity programmes and facilities in urban planning, giving particular attention to areas with a high population density. Equally, rural development programmes should pay due attention to the leisure needs of rural youth.

4. *Leisure-time activities and the media*

97. The media should be encouraged to promote youth understanding and awareness of all aspects of social integration, including tolerance and non-violent behaviour.

I. *Girls and young women*

98. One of the most important tasks of youth policy is to improve the situation of girls and young women. Governments therefore should implement their obligations under international human rights instruments as well as implementing the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women,[115] the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,[113] the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action of the World Conference on Human Rights[33] and other programmes of relevant United Nations conferences. Girls are often treated as inferior and are socialized to put themselves last, thus undermining their self-esteem. Discrimination and neglect in childhood can initiate a lifelong downward spiral of deprivation and exclusion from the social mainstream. Negative cultural attitudes and practices as well as gender-biased educational processes, including curricula, educational materials and practices, teachers' attitudes and classroom interaction, reinforce existing gender inequalities.

Proposals for action

1. *Discrimination*

99. Discrimination and neglect in childhood can initiate a lifelong exclusion from society. Action should be taken to eliminate discrimination against girls and young women and to ensure their full enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms through comprehensive policies, plans of action and programmes on the basis of equality. Initiatives should be taken to prepare girls to participate actively, effectively and equally with boys at all levels of social, economic, political and cultural leadership.

2. *Education*

100. Universal and equal access to and completion of primary education for girls and young women as well as equal access to secondary and higher education should be ensured. A framework should be provided for the development of educational materials and practices that are gender-balanced and promote an educational setting that eliminates all barriers impeding the schooling of girls and young women, including married and/or pregnant girls and young women.

3. *Health*

101. Discrimination against girls and young women should be eliminated in health and nutrition. The removal of discriminatory laws and practices against girls and young women in food allocation and nutrition should be promoted, and their access to health services should be ensured in accordance with the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women.

4. *Employment*

102. Girls and young women should be protected from economic and related forms of exploitation and from performing any work that is likely to be hazardous, to interfere with their education or to be harmful to their health or their physical, mental, spiritual, moral or social development, in conformity with the Convention on the Rights of the Child[120] and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.[121] Equal access for young women to all employment opportunities should be promoted and their participation in the traditionally male-dominated sectors should be encouraged.

5. *Violence*

103. Governments should cooperate at the international level and enact and enforce legislation protecting girls and young women from all forms of violence, including female infanticide and prenatal sex selection, genital mutilation, incest, sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, child prostitution and child pornography. Age-appropriate, safe and confidential programmes and support services to assist girls and young women who are subjected to violence should be developed in cooperation with relevant non-governmental organizations, particularly youth organizations, as appropriate.

J. *Full and effective participation of youth in the life of society and in decision-making*

104. The capacity for progress of our societies is based, among other elements, on their capacity to incorporate the contribution and responsibility of youth in the building and designing of the future. In addition to their intellectual contribution and their ability to mobilize support, they bring unique perspectives that need to be taken into account.

105. Any efforts and proposed actions in the other priority areas considered in this programme are, in a certain way, conditioned by enabling the economic, social and political participation of youth, as a matter of critical importance.

106. Youth organizations are important forums for developing skills necessary for effective participation in society, promoting tolerance and increased cooperation and exchanges between youth organizations.

Proposals for action

107. The following actions are proposed:

(*a*) Improving access to information in order to enable young people to make better use of their opportunities to participate in decision-making;

(*b*) Developing and/or strengthening opportunities for young people to learn their rights and responsibilities, promoting their social, political, developmental and environmental participation, removing obstacles that affect their full contribution to society and respecting, *inter alia*, freedom of association;

(*c*) Encouraging and promoting youth associations through financial, educational and technical support and promotion of their activities;

(*d*) Taking into account the contribution of youth in designing, implementing and evaluating national policies and plans affecting their concerns;

(*e*) Encouraging increased national, regional and international cooperation and exchange between youth organizations;

(*f*) Inviting Governments to strengthen the involvement of young people in international forums, *inter alia*, by considering the inclusion of youth representatives in their national delegations to the General Assembly.

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[120] Resolution 44/25, annex.

[121] Resolution 34/180, annex.

V. MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION

108. Effective implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond will require a significant expression of commitment by organizations and institutions responsible for its adoption and implementation and the involvement of such organizations and especially of youth from all sectors of society. Without such commitment by governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental entities at the national, regional and international levels, the Programme of Action will remain little more than a global statement of intent and general standard for action.

109. Therefore, the development of an overall system of enabling mechanisms is necessary in order for the Programme of Action to be implemented. Such mechanisms should engage, on a continuing basis, the human, political, economic, financial and sociocultural resources necessary to ensure that the Programme is implemented efficiently and effectively.

110. Implementation of the Programme of Action is ultimately the responsibility of Governments with the support of the international community and in cooperation, as appropriate, with the non-governmental and private sectors. Translation of the Programme's proposals for action into specific plans, targets and law will be influenced by national priorities, resources and historical experience. In this process, Governments can be assisted, at their request, by regional and international organizations.

111. In implementing the Programme of Action, Governments, youth organizations and other actors should promote an active and visible policy of mainstreaming a gender perspective in all policies and programmes in accordance with the results of the International Conference on Population and Development, the World Summit on Social Development and the Fourth World Conference on Women.

A. *National level*

112. Governments which have not already done so are urged to formulate and adopt an integrated national youth policy as a means of addressing youth-related concerns. This should be done as part of a continuing process of review and assessment of the situation of youth, formulation of a cross-sectoral national youth programme of action in terms of specific, time-bound objectives and a systematic evaluation of progress achieved and obstacles encountered.

113. Reinforcing youth-related concerns in development activities can be facilitated through the existence of multilevel mechanisms for consultation, dissemination of information, coordination, monitoring and evaluation. These should be cross-sectoral in nature and multidisciplinary in approach and should include the participation of youth-related departments and ministries, national non-governmental youth organizations and the private sector.

114. Special and additional efforts may be required to develop and disseminate model frameworks for integrated policies and to identify and organize an appropriate division of responsibilities among both governmental and non-governmental entities concerned with youth-related issues. Special and additional efforts could also be directed towards strengthening national capacities for data collection and dissemination of information, research and policy studies, planning, implementation and coordination, and training and advisory services.

115. National coordinating mechanisms should be appropriately strengthened for integrated youth policies and programmes. Where such mechanisms do not exist, Governments are urged to promote their establishment on a multilevel and cross-sectoral basis.

B. *Regional cooperation*

116. The activities of the United Nations regional commissions, in cooperation with concerned regional intergovernmental and non-governmental youth and youth-related organizations, are essential complements to national and global action aimed at building national capacities.

117. Regional commissions, within their existing mandates, are urged to promote the implementation of the Programme of Action through incorporation of its goals in their plans, to undertake comprehensive reviews of the progress achieved and obstacles encountered and to identify options to further regional-level action.

118. Regional intergovernmental meetings of ministers responsible for youth, in cooperation with the concerned United Nations regional commissions, regional intergovernmental organizations and regional non-governmental youth organizations, can make particular contributions to the formulation, implementation, coordination and evaluation of action at the regional level, including periodic monitoring of regional youth programmes.

119. Data collection, dissemination of information, research and policy studies, inter-organizational coordination and technical cooperation, training seminars and advisory services are among the measures which can be provided on request at the regional level to promote, implement and evaluate youth programmes.

120. Regional non-governmental youth organizations, regional offices of bodies and organizations of the United Nations system and regional intergovernmental organizations concerned with youth are invited to consider meeting on a biennial basis to review and discuss issues and trends and to identify proposals for regional and subregional cooperation. United Nations regional commissions are also invited to play an essential role through the provision of a suitable venue and appropriate input regarding regional action.

C. *International cooperation*

121. An essential role for international cooperation is to promote conditions conducive to the implementation of the Programme of Action at all levels. Means available include debates at the policy level and decisions at the intergovernmental level, global monitoring of issues and trends, data collection and dissemination of information, research and studies, planning and coordination, technical cooperation and outreach and partnership among interested constituencies from both the non-governmental and private sectors.

122. In its capacity as the subsidiary body of the Economic and Social Council responsible for global social development issues, the Commission for Social Development has an important role to play as the focal point for the implementation of the Programme of Action. The Commission is called upon to continue the policy-level dialogue on youth for policy coordination and for periodic monitoring of issues and trends.

123. Current regional and interregional conferences of ministers responsible for youth affairs in Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean and Western Asia are invited to intensify cooperation among each other and to consider meeting regularly at the international level under the aegis of the United Nations. Such meetings could provide an effective forum for a focused global dialogue on youth-related issues.

124. Youth-related bodies and organizations of the United Nations system are invited to cooperate with the above-mentioned conferences. In this connection, the existing ad hoc inter-agency working group on youth should meet annually and invite all concerned bodies and agencies of the United Nations system and related intergovernmental organizations to discuss ways and means by which they can promote the implementation of the Programme of Action on a coordinated basis.

125. Effective channels of communication between non-governmental youth organizations and the United Nations system are essential for dialogue and consultation on the situation of youth and implications for the implementation of the Programme of Action. The General Assembly has repeatedly stressed the importance of channels of communication in the field of youth. The Youth Forum of the United Nations system could contribute to the implementation of the Programme of Action through the identification and promotion of joint initiatives to further its objectives so that they better reflect the interests of youth.

1. *Data collection and dissemination of information*

126. Capacities to collect, analyse and present data in a timely and accurate fashion are essential for effective planning and target-setting, for monitoring issues and trends and for evaluating progress achieved in implementing the Programme of Action. Special attention should be directed towards building national capacities and institutions regularly to collect and compile socio-economic data series that are both cross-sectional and disaggregated by cohort. To this end, interested centres and institutions may wish to consider the possibility of jointly strengthening or establishing, in cooperation with the United Nations, networks concerned with collection of data and publication of statistics and to realize thereby greater economies of scale in the development and dissemination of statistics in the field of youth.

127. Major contributions related to data and statistics in the field of youth are currently being made by the United Nations. Such contributions include the socio-economic data collection and statistical development activities of the Statistics Division of the Department for

Economic and Social Information and Policy Analysis of the Secretariat; the youth policies and programmes information activities of the Division for Social Policy and Development of the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development of the Secretariat; the educational and literacy data collection activities of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization; and the youth advisory networks of the United Nations Environment Programme. Concerned bodies and agencies of the United Nations system are urged to explore ways and means of achieving greater coherence in data collection and the publication of statistics. This could include programme planning and coordination on an inter-agency basis. For example, the data bank programme on adolescent health of the World Health Organization is coordinated with the work of the Statistics Division of the Secretariat. Other bodies and agencies of the United Nations system are invited to contribute data in their respective areas of expertise to an integrated socio-economic data bank on youth. For instance, the international drug abuse assessment system of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme is urged to consider including a component on youth and drugs. An inventory of innovative youth policies, programmes and projects could be coordinated and made available to interested users by the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development. Other topics that could be considered for joint action include juvenile delinquency, runaways and homeless youth.

128. Public information and communications are equally important in building awareness of youth issues, as well as a consensus on appropriate planning and action. The bodies and organizations of the United Nations system concerned are urged, as a matter of priority, to review publications currently produced and to identify ways in which these publications can better promote the Programme of Action and areas in which they may need to be complemented through the production of leaflets and posters in connection with special events.

129. To encourage widespread awareness of and support for the Programme of Action, Governments, non-governmental organizations and, as appropriate, the private sector are urged to consider the possibility of preparing both printed and audiovisual materials related to areas of concern in the Programme of Action. This could be carried out with the assistance of and in cooperation with the United Nations and materials could be disseminated through United Nations public information channels. In addition, young people and youth organizations are urged to identify and plan information activities that focus on priority issues, which they would undertake within the context of the Programme of Action.

2. *Research and policy studies*

130. Comparative studies on issues and trends concerning youth are essential to the continuous expansion and development of the global body of knowledge on relevant theories, concepts and methods. International, regional and national research centres and institutions concerned with youth-related issues are urged to consider the possibility of establishing cooperative relationships with the United Nations to ensure effective links between the implementation of the Programme of Action and relevant research and studies.

131. Cooperation in strengthening and improving national capacities for the research, design, conduct and dissemination of relevant studies on the situation of young people is a closely related concern.

132. A third concern is the improved planning and coordination of the scarce human and financial resources available so that appropriate attention is accorded to initiatives undertaken by young people at all levels, related to priority areas identified in the Programme of Action, to the identification and assessment of issues and trends and to the review and evaluation of policy initiatives.

3. *Planning and coordination*

133. Using the mechanisms currently available within the United Nations system for planning, programming and coordinating activities concerning youth, interested bodies and organizations of the United Nations system are urged to review their medium-term planning process to give appropriate consideration to reinforcing a youth perspective in their activities. They are also urged to identify current and projected programme activities that correspond to the priorities of the Programme of Action so that these activities can be reinforced throughout the system. Appropriate attention should be directed towards identifying opportunities for joint planning among interested members of the system so that joint action may be undertaken that reflects their respective areas of competence, that is of direct interest to young people or that responds to priority needs of young people in special circumstances.

134. A complementary mechanism for coordination is provided by the channels that have been developed between the United Nations and intergovernmental and non-governmental youth organizations. Such mechanisms require appropriate strengthening to enable them to respond better to priorities for action, as identified in the Programme of Action.

4. *Technical cooperation, training and advisory services*

135. Technical cooperation is an essential means for building national capacities and institutional capabilities. Bodies and organizations of the United Nations system that have not already done so are urged to review and assess their range of programmatic and operational activities in the light of the priorities for action identified in the Programme of Action and to reinforce a youth dimension in technical cooperation activities. In this regard, special attention should be directed towards measures that will serve to promote expanded opportunities for international technical assistance and advisory services in the field of youth as a means of building expanded and strengthened networks of institutions and organizations.

136. There is a need to continue to improve the impact of technical cooperation activities carried out by the United Nations system, including those that relate to youth activities. The United Nations system must continue to assist Governments, at their request, to ensure implementation of national plans and strategies within the national priorities and programmes to support youth activities. As administrative overheads can reduce the resources available for technical cooperation, these should be reduced. National execution should be the preferred modality for the implementation of projects and programmes and, where required, developing countries should be assisted in improving their national capacities for project and programme formulation and execution.

137. Countries with economies in transition, when required, should also be assisted in improving their national capacities for project and programme formulation and execution.

138. The organization, on an inter-agency basis, of missions to review, assess and plan technical cooperation concerning youth, available on request to Governments, represents a specific contribution by the United Nations system to the implementation of the Programme of Action.

139. The United Nations Youth Fund represents a unique resource to support catalytic and innovative action concerning youth. Programme implementation can be furthered through the Fund's support, in both a technical and a financial sense, of pilot action, studies and technical exchanges on issues concerning youth that encourage the participation of youth in devising and carrying out projects and whose short time-frames often make it difficult to obtain needed support from conventional budgeting processes. The capacities of the Fund for innovative action are, however, limited in the light of Programme priorities, and interested Governments, non-governmental organizations and the private sector are invited to consider the possibility of supporting the activities of the Fund on a predictable and sustained basis. To this end, the parties concerned may wish to consider the possibility of constituting an advisory body at an appropriate level to review the application of the terms of reference of the Fund and priorities and means of strengthening its capacities.

5. *Outreach and partnership among specialized constituencies*

140. A crucial element in implementing the Programme of Action is the recognition that governmental action alone is not sufficient to ensure its success, that rather it should be further complemented by the support of the international community. This process will also require both systematic outreach and partnership among the Programme's many constituencies in both the non-governmental and private sectors.

141. A critical first step is phased expansion and regularization of channels of communication between the United Nations and non-governmental youth organizations to include representatives of interested private sector organizations. This would build upon the provisions set forth in General Assembly resolution 45/103 of 14 December 1990 concerning the involvement of youth and non-governmental youth organizations in the formulation of the Programme of Action. Youth, youth-related organizations and interested private sector organizations are urged to identify, in partnership with Governments, ways

in which they could contribute to action at the local level to implement the Programme, and to the periodic review, appraisal and formulation of options to achieve its goals and objectives.

142. Implementation of the Programme of Action offers important opportunities to expand technical and cultural exchanges among young people through new partnerships in both the public and private sectors; to identify and test improved ways to leverage public resources, in partnership with the non-governmental and private sectors, to further Programme priorities; and to encourage and jointly plan innovative approaches to critical issues concerning youth.

143. Relevant voluntary organizations, particularly those concerned with education, employment, juvenile justice, youth development, health, hunger, ecology and the environment, and drug abuse, can further the implementation of the Programme of Action by encouraging the involvement of young people in programme planning and field activities. The Programme of Action can contribute to the work of such organizations because it provides a global policy framework for consultation and coordination.

50/82. Assistance in mine clearance

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 48/7 of 19 October 1993 and 49/215 of 23 December 1994 on assistance in mine clearance, both adopted without a vote,

Reaffirming its deep concern at the tremendous humanitarian problem caused by the presence of mines and other unexploded devices that have serious and lasting social and economic consequences for the populations of mine-infested countries and constitute an obstacle to the return of refugees and other displaced persons, to humanitarian aid operations and to reconstruction and economic development, as well as to the restoration of normal social conditions,

Reiterating its dismay at the high number of victims of mines, especially among civilian populations, particularly children, and recalling in this context Commission on Human Rights resolution 1995/79 of 8 March 1995 on the rights of the child,[122]

Deeply alarmed that the number of mines being laid each year, as well as the presence of a large number of mines and other unexploded devices as a result of armed conflicts, exponentially outweighs the number of such mines that can be cleared during that time, and thus convinced of the necessity and urgency of a significant increase in mine-clearance efforts by the international community,

Recognizing the importance of recording the location of mines and of retaining all such records and making them available to concerned parties upon cessation of hostilities, in accordance with international law,

Bearing in mind the serious threat that mines and other unexploded devices pose to the safety, health and lives of personnel participating in humanitarian, peace-keeping and rehabilitation programmes and operations,

Conscious of the limited availability of safe and cost-effective mine-clearance techniques, and the need for improvements thereof, and of the lack of global coordination in the field of research to improve mine-clearance technology and the urgent need to foster international technical cooperation in this field,

Aware that the rate of mine clearance needs to improve substantially if the global land-mine problem is to be tackled effectively,

Recalling its resolution 50/74 of 12 December 1995 on the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects[123] and the convening by the Secretary-General of the Review Conference of the States Parties to that Convention at Vienna from 25 September to 13 October 1995, taking note, in this regard, of the decision of the Review Conference to continue its work in order to conclude negotiations on the strengthening of the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby Traps and Other Devices (Protocol II),[123] and welcoming in this regard the additional ratifications of or accessions to the Convention,

Recalling also its resolutions 48/75 K of 16 December 1993, 49/75 D of 15 December 1994 and 50/70 O of 12 December 1995 calling for a moratorium on the export of anti-personnel land-mines, and welcoming in this regard the export moratorium adopted by several States,

Bearing in mind that significant progress needs to be achieved in these fields,

Recognizing that, in addition to the primary role of States, the United Nations has an important role in the field of assistance in mine clearance,

Noting with satisfaction the inclusion in the mandates of several peace-keeping operations of provisions relating to mine-clearance work carried out under the direction of the Department of Peace-keeping Operations of the Secretariat in the context of such operations,

Commending the activities already undertaken by the United Nations system, donor and recipient Governments, the International Committee of the Red Cross and non-governmental organizations to coordinate their efforts and seek solutions to the problems related to the presence of mines and other unexploded devices,

Also commending the role of the Secretary-General, through the work of the Department of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat, in increasing public awareness of the problem of land-mines and for the establishment of the Central Land-Mine Database and its inventories of mine-awareness materials and mine-clearance techniques,

Commending in particular the outcome of the International Meeting on Mine Clearance held at Geneva from 5 to 7 July 1995, in which notable financial pledges were gathered for the Voluntary Trust Fund for Assistance in Mine Clearance and for the development of a de-mining stand-by capacity by the United Nations,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for his comprehensive report of 6 September 1995 on the activities of the United Nations in providing assistance in mine clearance and on the operation of the Voluntary Trust Fund for Assistance in Mine Clearance,[124] and takes note with interest of the proposals contained therein;

2. *Welcomes*, in particular, the efforts made by the United Nations to foster the establishment of national mine-clearance capacities in countries where mines constitute a serious threat to the safety, health and lives of the local population, and urges all Member States, particularly those that have a capacity to do so, to assist afflicted coun-

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[122] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1995, Supplement No. 3* and corrigenda (E/1995/23 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. II, sect. A.

[123] See *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook*, vol. 5: 1980 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.81.IX.4), appendix VII.

[124] A/50/408.

tries in the establishment and development of their national mine-clearance capacities;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to Member States, United Nations organizations and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations that participated in the International Meeting on Mine Clearance for their strong expression of cooperation in the field of assistance in mine clearance, and particularly to States and regional organizations for their financial contributions to the Voluntary Trust Fund as well as for providing the necessary means to establish a de-mining stand-by capacity within the United Nations;

4. *Appeals* to Member States as well as to intergovernmental organizations and foundations to continue to contribute to the Voluntary Trust Fund and to continue to supply the necessary means to the United Nations to foster its de-mining stand-by capacity;

5. *Invites* all relevant multilateral and national programmes and bodies to include, in coordination with the United Nations, activities related to mine clearance in their humanitarian, social and economic assistance activities;

6. *Emphasizes again*, in this connection, the importance of coordination by the United Nations of activities related to mine clearance, including those by regional organizations, in particular activities related to information and training;

7. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Department of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat to coordinate mine-related activities and, in particular, the establishment, in cooperation with other relevant United Nations organizations, of comprehensive mine-action programmes, and encourages the Department to continue and enhance those efforts within existing resources with a view to improving the effectiveness of assistance in mine clearance by the United Nations;

8. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to designate the Department of Humanitarian Affairs, the focal point in the United Nations for coordinating de-mining and related issues, as the repository of information and for encouraging and facilitating international research to improve mine-clearance methods;

9. *Urges* Member States, regional organizations, governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations to continue to extend full assistance and cooperation to the Secretary-General and, in particular, to provide him with information and data as well as other appropriate resources which could be useful in strengthening the coordination role of the United Nations in the field of mine awareness, training, surveying, mine detection and clearance, scientific research on mine detection and clearance technology, and information on and distribution of medical equipment and supplies;

10. *Calls upon* Member States, especially those that have a capacity to do so, to provide the necessary information and technical and material assistance, as appropriate, and to locate, remove, destroy or otherwise render ineffective minefields, mines, booby traps and other devices, in accordance with international law;

11. *Urges* Member States, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations and foundations that have the ability to do so to provide, as appropriate, technological assistance to mine-afflicted countries as well as to promote scientific research and development on humanitarian mine-clearance techniques and technology so that mine-clearance activities may be more effectively carried out at lower cost and through safer means, and to promote international collaboration in this regard;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session a report on the progress achieved on all relevant issues outlined in his reports to the Assembly at its forty-ninth[125] and fiftieth[124] sessions on assistance in mine clearance and on the operation of the Voluntary Trust Fund;

13. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session the item entitled "Assistance in mine clearance".

92nd plenary meeting
14 December 1995

50/83. Normalization of the situation concerning South Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 48/258 A, adopted by consensus on 23 June 1994, the date on which South Africa was invited to resume its participation in the work of the General Assembly,

Noting that South Africa has since that date commenced payment of its assessed contributions,

Also recalling the exceptional circumstances pertaining to the resumption of South Africa's participation in the work of the General Assembly following the elimination of apartheid and the establishment of a democratic, non-racial South Africa,

Recognizing that, owing to the exceptional circumstances arising from apartheid, South Africa requested not to be held liable for contributions relating to the period from 30 September 1974 to 23 June 1994,

Recognizing also that the General Assembly took a moral and political decision to exclude South Africa from participation in its work,

Recognizing further that the exclusion of South Africa from the work of the General Assembly was unprecedented,

1. *Accepts*, owing to these exceptional and unique circumstances, South Africa's request not to pay its contributions for the period from 30 September 1974 to 23 June 1994, and decides that the consequent burden for the Organization shall be borne by Member States pursuant to Article 17 of the Charter of the United Nations and the provisions of the present resolution;

2. *Welcomes and endorses* the statement of South Africa that it will waive any credits it would receive in the amount of 549,606 United States dollars, and 737,142 dollars from budgetary surpluses retained in the regular budget and the peace-keeping special accounts, respectively, for the period from 30 September 1974 to 23 June 1994;

3. *Decides* to reduce the net amount of 122,238,000 dollars available as credits to Member States, arising from the implementation of resolutions 2947 A and B (XXVII) of 8 December 1972, 36/116 B of 10 December 1981, 40/241 B of 18 December 1985 and 42/216 A of 21 December 1987, by 53,881,711 dollars, and to waive the share of the credits in the amount of 53,332,105 dollars among

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[125] A/49/357 and Add.1 and 2.

other Member States on the basis of the respective scale of assessments contained in resolutions 34/6 A of 25 October 1979, 37/125 A of 17 December 1982 and 40/248 of 18 December 1985, in order to account for the reduction in outstanding contributions resulting from paragraph 1 above;

4. *Also decides* to reduce the amount of 173,392,935 dollars, available as credits to Member States, arising from the implementation of resolutions 33/13 E of 14 December 1978, 34/7 D and 34/9 E of 17 December 1979, 35/45 B of 1 December 1980, 35/115 B of 10 December 1980, 36/66 B of 30 November 1981, 36/138 B of 16 December 1981, 37/38 B of 30 November 1982, 37/127 B of 17 December 1982, 38/35 B of 1 December 1983, 38/38 B of 5 December 1983, 39/28 B of 30 November 1984, 39/71 B of 13 December 1984, 40/59 B of 2 December 1985, 40/246 B of 18 December 1985, 41/44 B of 3 December 1986, 41/179 B of 5 December 1986, 42/70 B of 3 December 1987, 42/223 of 21 December 1987, 43/228 and 43/229 of 21 December 1988, 44/187 and 44/188 of 21 December 1989, 46/194 of 20 December 1991, 47/204 and 47/205 of 22 December 1992 and 49/226 of 23 December 1994, by 40,905,714 dollars and to waive the share of credits in the amount of 40,168,572 dollars among other Member States on the basis of the respective scale of assessments for the period in which the surpluses arose, in order to account for the reduction in outstanding contributions resulting from paragraph 1 above;

5. *Further decides* that, owing to the unique and exceptional circumstances arising from apartheid, the decisions set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of the present resolution shall under no circumstances constitute a precedent.

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50/84. Question of Palestine

A

COMMITTEE ON THE EXERCISE OF THE INALIENABLE RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 181 (II) of 29 November 1947, 194 (III) of 11 December 1948, 3236 (XXIX) of 22 November 1974, 3375 (XXX) and 3376 (XXX) of 10 November 1975, 31/20 of 24 November 1976, 32/40 A of 2 December 1977, 33/28 A and B of 7 December 1978, 34/65 A of 29 November 1979 and 34/65 C of 12 December 1979, ES-7/2 of 29 July 1980, 35/169 A and C of 15 December 1980, 36/120 A and C of 10 December 1981, ES-7/4 of 28 April 1982, 37/86 A of 10 December 1982, 38/58 A of 13 December 1983, 39/49 A of 11 December 1984, 40/96 A of 12 December 1985, 41/43 A of 2 December 1986, 42/66 A of 2 December 1987, 43/175 A of 15 December 1988, 44/41 A of 6 December 1989, 45/67 A of 6 December 1990, 46/74 A of 11 December 1991, 47/64 A of 11 December 1992, 48/158 A of 20 December 1993 and 49/62 A of 14 December 1994,

Having considered the report of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People,[126]

Welcoming the signing of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements, including its Annexes and Agreed Minutes, by the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization in Washington on 13 September 1993,[45] as well as the subsequent implementation agreements, in particular the Agreement on the Gaza Strip and the Jericho Area, signed at Cairo on 4 May 1994,[46] and the Interim Agreement on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, signed in Washington on 28 September 1995,

Reaffirming that the United Nations has a permanent responsibility with respect to the question of Palestine until the question is resolved in all its aspects in a satisfactory manner, in accordance with international legitimacy,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People for its efforts in performing the tasks assigned to it by the General Assembly;

2. *Considers* that the Committee can continue to make a valuable and positive contribution to international efforts to promote the effective implementation of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements and to mobilize international support for and assistance to the Palestinian people during the transitional period;

3. *Endorses* the recommendations of the Committee contained in chapter VII of its report;

4. *Requests* the Committee to continue to keep under review the situation relating to the question of Palestine and to report and make suggestions to the General Assembly or the Security Council, as appropriate;

5. *Authorizes* the Committee to continue to exert all efforts to promote the exercise of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, to make such adjustments in its approved programme of work as it may consider appropriate and necessary in the light of developments, to give special emphasis to the need to mobilize support and assistance for the Palestinian people, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session and thereafter;

6. *Also requests* the Committee to continue to extend its cooperation to non-governmental organizations in their contribution towards heightening international awareness of the facts relating to the question of Palestine and promoting support and assistance to meet the needs of the Palestinian people, and to take the necessary steps to involve additional non-governmental organizations in its work;

7. *Requests* the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine, established under resolution 194 (III), and other United Nations bodies associated with the question of Palestine to continue to cooperate fully with the Committee and to make available to it, at its request, the relevant information and documentation which they have at their disposal;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to circulate the report of the Committee to all the competent bodies of the United Nations and urges them to take the necessary action, as appropriate;

9. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Committee with all the necessary facilities for the performance of its tasks.

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[126] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 35* (A/50/35).

B

DIVISION FOR PALESTINIAN RIGHTS OF THE SECRETARIAT

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People,[126]

Taking note in particular of the relevant information contained in chapter V.B of that report,

Recalling its resolutions 32/40 B of 2 December 1977, 33/28 C of 7 December 1978, 34/65 D of 12 December 1979, 35/169 D of 15 December 1980, 36/120 B of 10 December 1981, 37/86 B of 10 December 1982, 38/58 B of 13 December 1983, 39/49 B of 11 December 1984, 40/96 B of 12 December 1985, 41/43 B of 2 December 1986, 42/66 B of 2 December 1987, 43/175 B of 15 December 1988, 44/41 B of 6 December 1989, 45/67 B of 6 December 1990, 46/74 B of 11 December 1991, 47/64 B of 11 December 1992, 48/158 B of 20 December 1993 and 49/62 B of 14 December 1994,

1. *Notes with appreciation* the action taken by the Secretary-General in compliance with its resolution 49/62 B;

2. *Considers* that the Division for Palestinian Rights of the Secretariat continues to make a useful and constructive contribution through the organization of seminars and meetings of non-governmental organizations, as well as through its research and monitoring activities, the preparation of studies and publications and the collection and dissemination of information in printed and electronic form on all issues pertaining to the question of Palestine;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Division with the necessary resources, including for the further development of the United Nations information system on the question of Palestine,[127] and to ensure that it continues to discharge the tasks detailed in paragraph 1 of resolution 32/40 B, paragraph 2 (*b*) of resolution 34/65 D, paragraph 3 of resolution 36/120 B, paragraph 3 of resolution 38/58 B, paragraph 3 of resolution 40/96 B, paragraph 2 of resolution 42/66 B, paragraph 2 of resolution 44/41 B, paragraph 2 of resolution 46/74 B and paragraph 2 of resolution 48/158 B, in consultation with the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People and under its guidance;

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the continued cooperation of the Department of Public Information and other units of the Secretariat in enabling the Division to perform its tasks and in covering adequately the various aspects of the question of Palestine;

5. *Invites* all Governments and organizations to lend their cooperation to the Committee and the Division in the performance of their tasks;

6. *Notes with appreciation* the action taken by Member States to observe annually on 29 November the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People and requests them to continue to give the widest possible publicity to the observance, and requests the Committee to continue to organize, as part of the observance of the Day of Solidarity, an annual exhibit on Palestinian rights in cooperation with the Permanent Observer Mission of Palestine to the United Nations.

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C

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INFORMATION OF THE SECRETARIAT

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People,[126]

Taking note in particular of the information contained in chapter VI of that report,

Recalling its resolution 49/62 C of 14 December 1994,

Convinced that the worldwide dissemination of accurate and comprehensive information and the role of non-governmental organizations and institutions remain of vital importance in heightening awareness of and support for the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people,

Aware of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements signed by the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization in Washington on 13 September 1993,[45] and of the subsequent implementation agreements, in particular the Interim Agreement on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip signed in Washington on 28 September 1995, and their positive implications,

1. *Notes with appreciation* the action taken by the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat in compliance with resolution 49/62 C;

2. *Considers* that the special information programme on the question of Palestine of the Department of Public Information is very useful in raising the awareness of the international community concerning the complexities of the question and the situation in the Middle East in general, including the achievements of the peace process, and that the programme is contributing effectively to an atmosphere conducive to dialogue and supportive of the peace process;

3. *Requests* the Department, in full cooperation and coordination with the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, to continue, with the necessary flexibility as may be required by developments affecting the question of Palestine, its special information programme on the question of Palestine for the biennium 1996-1997, with particular emphasis on public opinion in Europe and North America and, in particular:

(*a*) To disseminate information on all the activities of the United Nations system relating to the question of Palestine, including reports on the work carried out by the relevant United Nations organizations;

(*b*) To continue to issue and update publications on the various aspects of the question of Palestine in all fields, including materials concerning the recent developments in that regard and, in particular, the achievements of the peace process;

(*c*) To expand its audiovisual material on the question of Palestine, including the production of such material;

(*d*) To organize and promote fact-finding news missions for journalists to the area, including the territories under the jurisdiction of the Palestinian Authority and the occupied territories;

(*e*) To organize international, regional and national encounters for journalists;

(*f*) To provide, in cooperation with specialized agencies of the United Nations system, particularly the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, assistance to the Palestinian people in the field of media development.

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[127] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 35* (A/50/35), para. 99.

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D

PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF THE QUESTION OF PALESTINE

The General Assembly,

Recalling its relevant resolutions,

Recalling also the relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967 and 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General of 7 November 1995, submitted pursuant to the request made in its resolution 49/62 D of 14 December 1994,[128]

Convinced that achieving a final and peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine, the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict, is imperative for the attainment of a comprehensive and lasting peace in the Middle East,

Aware that the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples is among the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Affirming the principle of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by war,

Affirming also the illegality of the Israeli settlements in the territory occupied since 1967 and of Israeli actions aimed at changing the status of Jerusalem,

Affirming once again the right of all States in the region to live in peace within secure and internationally recognized borders,

Aware of the mutual recognition between the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people, and the signing by the two parties of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements[45] in Washington on 13 September 1993, as well as the subsequent implementation agreements, including the Interim Agreement on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip signed in Washington on 28 September 1995,

Noting with satisfaction the withdrawal of the Israeli army, which took place in the Gaza Strip and the Jericho area in accordance with the agreements reached by the parties, and the initiation of the Palestinian Authority in those areas, as well as the beginning of the redeployment of the Israeli army in the rest of the West Bank,

Aware also that the United Nations has participated as a full, extraregional participant in the work of the multilateral working groups of the Middle East peace process,

Noting the appointment of the United Nations Special Coordinator in the Occupied Territories by the Secretary-General, and the positive contribution in this regard,

Welcoming the convening of the Conference to Support Middle East Peace in Washington on 1 October 1993 and all follow-up meetings,

1. *Reaffirms* the necessity of achieving a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine, the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict, in all its aspects;

2. *Expresses its full support* of the ongoing peace process which began in Madrid and the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements, as well as the subsequent implementation agreements, and expresses the hope that the process will lead to the establishment of a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East;

3. *Calls* for the timely and scrupulous implementation of the agreements reached between the parties towards the negotiation of the final settlement;

4. *Stresses* the need for:

(*a*) The realization of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, primarily the right to self-determination;

(*b*) The withdrawal of Israel from the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967;

5. *Stresses also* the need for resolving the problem of the Palestine refugees in conformity with its resolution 194 (III) of 11 December 1948;

6. *Urges* Member States to expedite the provision of economic and technical assistance to the Palestinian people during this critical period;

7. *Emphasizes* the importance for the United Nations to play a more active and expanded role in the current peace process and in the implementation of the Declaration of Principles, including the monitoring of the forthcoming Palestinian elections;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts with the parties concerned, and in consultation with the Security Council, for the promotion of peace in the region and to submit progress reports on developments in this matter.

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15 December 1995

50/85. International assistance for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of Nicaragua: aftermath of the war and natural disasters

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 45/15 of 20 November 1990, 46/109 A and B of 17 December 1991, 47/118 of 18 December 1992, 48/161 of 20 December 1993 and 49/137 of 19 December 1994 concerning the situation in Central America,

Recalling also its resolutions 47/169 of 22 December 1992, 48/8 of 22 October 1993 and 49/16 of 17 November 1994 concerning the item entitled "International assistance for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of Nicaragua: aftermath of the war and natural disasters", in which it requested the international community to continue providing support to Nicaragua, taking into account the exceptional circumstances faced by that country, and requested the Secretary-General, in coordination with the Nicaraguan authorities, to provide the assistance necessary in the process of consolidation of peace,

Deeply concerned at the fact that the recent natural disasters that have occurred in Nicaragua, the burden of the foreign debt, despite its reduction and renegotiation achieved with the collaboration of the international community, and the harmful effects on its economy of the prolonged periods of drought followed by excessive rain and floods that have afflicted the Central American region impede the efforts being made by Nicaragua to overcome the consequences of war within the framework of a democracy and under the macroeconomic conditions already achieved,

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[128] A/50/725-S/1995/930; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fiftieth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1995*, document S/1995/930.

Deeply concerned also at the serious effects of the volcanic eruption of Cerro Negro in Nicaragua, which has created a social and ecological emergency in the affected areas, as well as the urgent requirement for humanitarian assistance and the need to restore the normal conditions of the population,

Taking into account the central role of all parties in Nicaragua, in particular the Government and the Nicaraguan people, in seeking lasting solutions to consolidate the achievements of their transition,

Expressing its appreciation for the work of the Support Group for Nicaragua, which, under the coordination of the Secretary-General, is playing an active role in supporting that country's efforts towards economic recovery and social development,

Recognizing the efforts of the international community and the Government of Nicaragua to provide relief to the persons affected by the aftermath of the war and natural disasters,

Recognizing also the intensive efforts by the Government of Nicaragua to promote a sustained economic recovery and the considerable progress made in securing a broad social consensus by means of a process of national dialogue for the adoption of measures to lay the foundations for reconstruction and economic and social development through a comprehensive transition process that will be further consolidated with the holding of free and democratic elections at the end of 1996,

Taking into account the commitments adopted by the Central American Presidents at the Central American Environment Summit for Sustainable Development, through the Alliance for the Sustainable Development of Central America,[85] and, in this context, the special attention required by Nicaragua because of its exceptional situation in order that those important commitments may begin to be implemented,

Taking note with satisfaction of the report of the Secretary-General of 10 October 1995 on the measures adopted pursuant to resolution 49/16,[129]

1. *Commends* the efforts made by the international community, including the organs and organizations of the United Nations system, to supplement the action undertaken by the Government of Nicaragua and by other parties concerned in the task of rehabilitation and national reconstruction as well as in providing emergency assistance;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General, within existing resources, to support the efforts of the Government of Nicaragua in the affected areas, and invites Member States, organizations, specialized agencies and programmes of the United Nations to continue to provide assistance and to respond generously while the emergency situation persists;

3. *Expresses its gratitude* to the Secretary-General for his report on the measures adopted pursuant to resolution 49/16;

4. *Encourages* the Government of Nicaragua to continue its efforts for reconstruction and national reconciliation, in particular those related to poverty alleviation, economic and social development and the solution of property problems, with a view to the consolidation of a stable democracy;

5. *Requests* all Member States, the international funding agencies and regional, intraregional and non-governmental organizations to continue to provide, in a broad and flexible form, support to Nicaragua at the required levels, giving particular attention to the exceptional circumstances of Nicaragua, and to stimulate a greater effort in the process of reconstruction, social investment, stabilization and development;

6. *Calls upon* all Member States, the international funding agencies, regional and intraregional organizations and, in particular, the Secretary-General, taking into account the explicit request of the Government of Nicaragua, to provide the technical cooperation and assistance needed in support of the electoral process which will take place in Nicaragua in 1996;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the relevant organs and organizations of the United Nations system and in close cooperation with the Nicaraguan authorities, to continue to provide all necessary assistance to activities for the reconstruction, stabilization and development of Nicaragua and to continue to ensure the timely, comprehensive, flexible and effective formulation and coordination of programmes of the United Nations system in Nicaragua, given the importance of those activities for the consolidation of peace, democracy and sustainable development;

8. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to provide Nicaragua, at the request of its Government, with all possible assistance to support the consolidation of peace, democracy and sustainable development in such areas as caring for displaced persons, land ownership and land tenure in rural areas, appropriate care for war-disabled persons, mine clearance and the overcoming of difficulties in the restoration of the productive areas of the country, and, in general, a process of sustained economic and social recovery and development so that the peace and democracy already achieved become irreversible;

9. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session a report on the action taken to implement the present resolution;

10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session the item entitled "International assistance for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of Nicaragua: aftermath of the war and natural disasters", and thereafter to consider this issue on a biennial basis, under the item entitled "Special economic assistance to individual countries or regions".

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50/86. The situation of democracy and human rights in Haiti

The General Assembly,

Having considered further the item entitled "The situation of democracy and human rights in Haiti",

Recalling all its relevant resolutions, as well as those adopted on the question by the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on Human Rights,

Recalling also the relevant resolutions adopted on the question by the Organization of American States,

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[129] A/50/535.

Reaffirming that the goal of the international community remains the full observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms and the promotion of social and economic development in Haiti,

Welcoming the legislative and municipal elections being held in a peaceful environment and observed by the Organization of American States in close coordination with the United Nations,

Stressing the willingness of the Government of Haiti to hold the forthcoming presidential elections in accordance with the Constitution, as a crucial step in the complete consolidation of long-lasting democracy in Haiti,

Strongly supportive of the continuing leadership of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Secretary-General of the Organization of American States in the efforts of the international community in furthering political progress in Haiti,

Welcoming the success of the United Nations Mission in Haiti and the contributions of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and his staff to that success,

Welcoming also the continued efforts by States to provide humanitarian assistance and technical cooperation to the people of Haiti,

Supporting fully the contribution of the International Civilian Mission to Haiti and the United Nations Mission in Haiti in the establishment of a climate of freedom and tolerance propitious to the full observance of human rights and the full restoration of the constitutional democracy of Haiti,

Paying tribute to the members and staff of the International Civilian Mission to Haiti for their contribution in accompanying the Haitian people in their efforts to return to constitutional order and democracy,

Welcoming the continuous improvement in the situation of human rights in Haiti,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General of 12 October 1995 on the situation of democracy and human rights in Haiti,[130]

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General, outlining the continuation until 7 February 1996 of the joint participation of the United Nations with the Organization of American States in the International Civilian Mission to Haiti, with the task of verifying full observance by Haiti of human rights and fundamental freedoms, in order to further the establishment of a climate of freedom and tolerance propitious to the consolidation of long-term constitutional democracy in Haiti and to contribute to the strengthening of democratic institutions;

2. *Stands ready*, upon consideration of a recommendation by the Secretary-General and at the request of the Haitian authorities, to extend the United Nations component of the International Civilian Mission to Haiti beyond 7 February 1996 in an appropriate resolution;

3. *Expresses its full support* for the International Civilian Mission to Haiti and trusts that the Government of Haiti will continue to afford it timely, complete and effective cooperation;

4. *Commends* the Haitian authorities on the progress accomplished in the advance of democracy, respect for human rights and the reconstruction of Haiti;

5. *Pays tribute* to the Haitian people in their ongoing quest for strong and lasting democracy, justice and economic prosperity;

6. *Expresses its appreciation* to those States participating in the United Nations Mission in Haiti and those that have accompanied the Haitian people in their efforts to return to constitutional order and democracy;

7. *Expresses its confidence* that the forthcoming presidential elections will further strengthen democracy in Haiti;

8. *Reaffirms once again* the commitment of the international community to continue its technical, economic and financial cooperation with Haiti in support of its economic and social development efforts and in order to strengthen Haitian institutions responsible for dispensing justice and guaranteeing democracy, respect for human rights, political stability and economic development;

9. *Commends* the cooperation between the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Secretary-General of the Organization of American States in their efforts to promote respect for the rights of all Haitians and to contribute to the strengthening of democratic institutions, including through election monitoring;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to support the Government of Haiti as it works towards the national reconstruction and development of Haiti, in order to consolidate a climate propitious to the establishment of a lasting democracy and full respect for human rights;

11. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to coordinate the efforts of the United Nations system to help provide humanitarian aid and meet the development requirements of Haiti;

12. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly regular reports on the work of the International Civilian Mission to Haiti;

13. *Decides* to keep the item entitled "The situation of democracy and human rights in Haiti" under review at its fiftieth session.

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50/87. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 48/5 of 13 October 1993 on observer status for the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, and the framework for cooperation and coordination between the United Nations and the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe signed on 26 May 1993,[131] as well as its resolution 49/13 of 15 November 1994 on cooperation between the two organizations,

Recalling also the declaration at the 1992 Helsinki Summit by the heads of State or Government of the participating States of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe of their understanding that the Conference is a regional arrangement in the sense of Chapter VIII of the

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[130] A/50/548.

[131] See A/48/185, annex II.

Charter of the United Nations and as such provides an important link between European and global security,[132]

Taking note of the Document of the Budapest Summit of 1994 of the Conference,[133] in particular the decision that, in order to reflect the fundamental change in the Conference and the dramatic growth in its role in shaping a common security area, the Conference would henceforth be known as the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe,

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General of 16 October 1995 on cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe,[134]

Acknowledging the increasing contribution of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to the establishment and maintenance of international peace and security in its region through activities in early warning, preventive diplomacy, crisis management, arms control and disarmament, and post-crisis stabilization and rehabilitation measures, and its efforts in supporting the economic dimension, as well as its crucial role in the human dimension,

Taking note of the statement of the Budapest Summit of 1994 in which it was agreed that participating States might, in exceptional circumstances, jointly decide that a dispute would be referred to the Security Council on behalf of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe,

Welcoming the fact that, since the Budapest Summit of 1994, cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe has developed further on both the political and organizational levels and that joint efforts in several areas are being undertaken, such as humanitarian activities, monitoring of human rights, election monitoring and the implementation of sanctions regimes,

Welcoming also the progress made in the development and consolidation of contacts and cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe with regard to the activities of the field missions of the latter,

Recalling that the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe has already established a long-term presence in several countries, including the conflict zones in its region,

Stressing the importance of the full implementation of Security Council resolution 855 (1993) of 9 August 1993, as well as the decisions of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe concerning the resumption of the activities of its mission to Kosovo, the Sandžak and Vojvodina in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro),

Underlining the possibilities for regional action by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe for the maintenance of international peace and security as provided for under Chapter VIII of the Charter,

Welcoming the ongoing work within the framework of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe on the elaboration of a common and comprehensive security model for the Europe of the twenty-first century,

Welcoming also the further development of closer contacts between the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the non-participating Mediterranean States with special regard to their seminar at Cairo on the experience of the Organization in confidence-building measures, as well as the increased cooperation between the Organization and States in Asia, and looking forward to the continuation of those contacts,

Welcoming further the decision of the Permanent Council of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, which met at Budapest on 7 December 1995,[135] that the above-mentioned Mediterranean States would be known henceforth as "Mediterranean Partners for Cooperation" and the above-mentioned States in Asia as "Partners for Cooperation",

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report of the Secretary-General;

2. *Welcomes* the intensified cooperation and coordination between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe on the basis of the framework agreement,[131] and requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations to explore with the Chairman-in-Office and the Secretary-General of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe possibilities for further improvement, with special regard to the mutual provision in advance of information in those areas where both organizations have their own respective roles to play;

3. *Also welcomes* the support extended by the United Nations in sharing its experience with the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe in conflict prevention and peace-building and peace-keeping activities;

4. *Supports* the activities of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe aimed at contributing to stability and the maintenance of peace and security within its region, and stresses the importance of the work done by its field missions;

5. *Encourages* the States members of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to make every effort to achieve peaceful settlement of disputes in the region, through conflict prevention and crisis management by the Organization, including peace-keeping;

6. *Welcomes* the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the annexes thereto, signed in Paris on 14 December 1995 by the Presidents of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia,[136] and the important role it assigns to the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to supervise the preparation and conduct of free and fair elections in Bosnia and Herzegovina, to monitor, in cooperation with other international organizations, the human rights situation, to help guide the negotiating process to bring about regional stability and to build mechanisms to increase confidence and security;

7. *Also welcomes* the Basic Agreement on the Region of Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and Western Sirmium, signed

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[132] See A/47/361-S/24370, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-seventh Year, Supplement for July, August and September 1992*, document S/24370.

[133] A/49/800-S/1994/1435, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-ninth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1994*, document S/1994/1435.

[134] A/50/564.

[135] See A/50/813-S/1995/1030; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fiftieth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1995*, document S/1995/1030.

[136] See A/50/790-S/1995/999; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fiftieth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1995*, document S/1995/999.

on 12 November 1995,[137] and acknowledges the important role of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe in the implementation of that agreement and the future role of the Organization in other regions of Croatia;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe", and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session a report on cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe in implementation of the present resolution.

94th plenary meeting
18 December 1995

50/88. Emergency international assistance for peace, normalcy and reconstruction of war-stricken Afghanistan and the situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security

A

EMERGENCY INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE FOR PEACE, NORMALCY AND RECONSTRUCTION OF WAR-STRICKEN AFGHANISTAN

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 47/119 of 18 December 1992, 48/208 of 21 December 1993 and 49/140 of 20 December 1994 concerning emergency international assistance for the reconstruction of war-stricken Afghanistan,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General of 8 November 1995,[138]

Concerned about the renewal of armed conflict and the attendant displacement of families and interruptions in the process of repatriating refugees,

Deeply concerned about the massive loss of human life, the aggravated suffering of the most vulnerable groups, the destruction of property and the serious damage to the economic and social infrastructure of Afghanistan caused by sixteen years of war, and stressing the importance of a return to peace and stability for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of Afghanistan, bearing in mind that the country continues to suffer from an extremely critical economic situation as a land-locked, least developed and war-stricken country,

Welcoming the efforts of the United Nations Special Mission to Afghanistan headed by Mr. Mahmoud Mestiri to bring about the restoration of peace, normalcy and national reconciliation and the reconstruction and rehabilitation of war-stricken Afghanistan,

Deeply concerned also about the problem of millions of anti-personnel land-mines and unexploded ordnance in Afghanistan which continue to prevent many Afghan refugees from returning to their villages and working in their fields, and disturbed by reports of new mines being laid,

Concerned for the well-being of the unarmed civilian population of Afghanistan, in particular of Kabul, who face a long winter possibly deprived of basic foods, fuel and medicine owing to a renewal of hostilities around the capital,

Bearing in mind the close interrelationship between ensuring peace and normalcy in Afghanistan and the ability of the country to take effective steps towards revitalizing the economy, and stressing that a cessation of armed hostilities between the warring parties in Afghanistan is indispensable if reconstruction measures are to have a lasting effect,

Affirming the urgent need to continue international action to assist Afghanistan in restoring basic services and the infrastructure of the country, and welcoming the efforts of the United Nations Development Programme and other United Nations agencies in this respect,

Expressing its appreciation for the assistance of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in its continuing support for the repatriation of Afghan refugees from neighbouring countries,

Reaffirming the principle of *non-refoulement* as contained in article 33 of the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees,[139]

Expressing its gratitude to all Governments that have rendered assistance to Afghan refugees, in particular the Governments of Pakistan and the Islamic Republic of Iran, and recognizing the need for continuing international assistance for the maintenance abroad and the voluntary repatriation and resettlement of refugees and internally displaced persons,

Expressing its appreciation to the States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations that have responded positively and continue to respond to the humanitarian needs of Afghanistan, as well as to the Secretary-General for his efforts to draw the attention of the international community to the acute problems of reconstruction in Afghanistan and for mobilizing and coordinating the delivery of appropriate humanitarian assistance,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General and endorses the observations and recommendations set out therein;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to authorize the United Nations Special Mission to Afghanistan, established under resolution 48/208, to continue its efforts to facilitate national reconciliation and reconstruction in Afghanistan;

3. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue efforts to develop plans for national reconstruction and rehabilitation beginning in areas of peace and security, on the basis of the recommendations set out in his report;

4. *Calls upon* all Afghan parties not to hinder in any way efforts by the United Nations and associated organizations to transport and distribute emergency humanitarian assistance to the Afghan population, particularly to the city of Kabul, and urges them to ensure full freedom of movement for the United Nations Special Mission;

5. *Urgently appeals* to all States, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system, specialized agencies and other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to continue to provide, on a priority basis and as far as conditions on the ground permit, all possible financial, technical and material assistance for the restoration of the basic services and the reconstruction of Afghanistan and the voluntary, safe and secure return of refu-

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[137] A/50/757-S/1995/951, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fiftieth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1995*, document S/1995/951.

[138] A/50/737.

[139] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 189, No. 2545.

gees and internally displaced persons, and appeals to the international financial and development institutions to assist in the planning of the reconstruction of Afghanistan;

6. *Calls upon* the international community to respond to the inter-agency consolidated appeal for emergency humanitarian and rehabilitation assistance for Afghanistan launched by the Secretary-General for the period from 1 October 1995 to 30 September 1996, bearing in mind the availability also of the Afghanistan Emergency Trust Fund;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session a report on the actions taken pursuant to the present resolution;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session, under the cluster of items on coordination of humanitarian assistance, the item entitled "Emergency international assistance for peace, normalcy and reconstruction of war-stricken Afghanistan".

95th plenary meeting
19 December 1995

B

THE SITUATION IN AFGHANISTAN AND ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 49/140 of 20 December 1994 on emergency international assistance for peace, normalcy and reconstruction of war-stricken Afghanistan,

Recalling also the statements on Afghanistan of the President of the Security Council of 24 January, 23 March, 11 August and 30 November 1994,[140]

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General of 8 November 1995,[138]

Wishing the people of Afghanistan peace and prosperity,

Firmly committed to national reconciliation in Afghanistan and to its sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity,

Emphasizing the importance of democracy and of the realization of human rights in any future political process in Afghanistan,

Deeply concerned about the lack of progress in reaching an agreement on the establishment of an acceptable and broadly representative "mechanism", the transfer of power and an immediate and durable cease-fire,

Affirming the readiness of the United Nations to assist the people of Afghanistan in their effort to resolve internal political differences, facilitating national reconciliation leading to the restoration of a fully representative, broad-based government and to the start of the process of rehabilitation and reconstruction in their country,

Welcoming the efforts of the United Nations Special Mission to Afghanistan headed by Mr. Mahmoud Mestiri to bring about the restoration of peace, normalcy and national reconciliation,

Expressing its support for the continuing efforts of the Special Mission, particularly the steps taken by the Mission to begin a political process in which all segments of Afghan society are represented,

Expressing its appreciation for the efforts of the Organization of the Islamic Conference in support of the Special Mission and the engagement of that organization in Afghanistan, in coordination with the United Nations, with a view to achieving a just and lasting political settlement,

Noting with mounting concern the prolongation, and in some regions the intensification, of armed hostilities among the parties in the country, including indiscriminate attacks on civilians and other violations of international humanitarian law which have caused significant civilian casualties, displaced populations and destruction of the economic and social infrastructure of the country, in spite of repeated calls by the Security Council and the Secretary-General for a cessation of hostilities,

Deeply concerned about the recurring abuses of human rights in Afghanistan,

Reaffirming the call of the Security Council on all States to stop the flow of weapons to the parties in Afghanistan,

Expressing its concern about actions undermining the security of State frontiers, including illicit traffic in arms and narcotics by criminal elements and groups from certain areas of Afghanistan which creates a threat to peace and stability in the whole region, including Afghanistan,

Bearing in mind the close interrelationship between ensuring peace and normalcy in Afghanistan and the ability of the country to take effective steps towards revitalizing the economy, and stressing that a cessation of armed hostilities between the warring parties in Afghanistan and political stability are indispensable if reconstruction measures are to have a lasting effect,

Emphasizing the continuing need for strong political support by the international community for the United Nations Special Mission, and welcoming the Secretary-General's decision to strengthen the Mission,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General and endorses the observations and recommendations set out therein;

2. *Expresses its support* for the decision of the Secretary-General to strengthen the United Nations Special Mission to Afghanistan by stationing four additional political counsellors in Afghanistan, and urges the Secretary-General to initiate the necessary arrangements as soon as possible;

3. *Supports* the Secretary-General in his efforts to pursue all possible means of cooperation with the Afghan parties and with the Organization of the Islamic Conference and regional States with a view to achieving national reconciliation in Afghanistan;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to authorize the United Nations Special Mission to Afghanistan, established under resolution 48/208 and supported by the Office of the Secretary-General in Afghanistan, to continue its efforts to facilitate national reconciliation and reconstruction in Afghanistan, in particular by ensuring transfer of power through the urgent establishment of a fully representative and broad-based authoritative council with authority, *inter alia*:

(*a*) To negotiate and oversee an immediate and durable cease-fire;

(*b*) To create and control a national security force to provide for security throughout the country and oversee the collection and safeguarding of all heavy weapons in the country, and to stop the flow of arms and of equipment related to arms production to the parties;

(*c*) To form an acceptable transitional government which could, *inter alia*, control the national security force until conditions for free and fair elections are established throughout the country, possibly utilizing traditional decision-making structures, such as a grand assembly, to help establish those conditions;

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[140] *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-ninth Year, Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1994*, documents S/PRST/1994/4, 12, 43 and 77, respectively.

5. *Reiterates its call upon* all Afghans, especially the leaders of warring parties, to cooperate fully with the broad-based authoritative council, priority being given to the implementation of the steps referred to in paragraph 4 above;

6. *Urges* the leaders of all Afghan parties to renounce the use of force and to settle their political differences by peaceful means;

7. *Urgently calls upon* all parties strictly to respect all provisions of international humanitarian law;

8. *Calls upon* all warring parties in Afghanistan to refrain from detaining foreign nationals, and urges the captors of the members of the crew of the Russian aircraft in Kandahar to release them immediately;

9. *Calls upon* all States:

(*a*) To respect Afghanistan's sovereignty and territorial integrity, strictly to refrain from interfering in the internal affairs of Afghanistan and to respect the right of the Afghan people to determine their own destiny;

(*b*) To take all steps necessary to promote peace in Afghanistan, to stop the flow of arms and of equipment related to arms production to all parties and to put an end to this destructive conflict;

10. *Calls upon* the international community to promote stability in Afghanistan and, without prejudice to the provisions of paragraph 9 (*a*) above, urges all States, including Afghanistan, to strengthen cooperation against the use of the Afghan territory for international terrorism, which, if not curtailed, extends beyond the region with detrimental consequences;

11. *Supports* the intention of the Secretary-General to move the Office of the Secretary-General in Afghanistan to Kabul as soon as the situation permits;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly every three months during its fiftieth session on the progress of the United Nations Special Mission and to report to the Assembly at its fifty-first session on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution;

13. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session the item entitled "The situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security".

95th plenary meeting
19 December 1995

50/131. United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions on the United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa, in particular resolution 49/17 of 23 November 1994,

Also recalling its resolution 2349 (XXII) of 19 December 1967, by which it established the United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa by integrating earlier special programmes, and resolution 2431 (XXIII) of 18 December 1968, by which it established the Advisory Committee on the United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General of 7 December 1995[141] containing an account of the work of the Advisory Committee and the administration of the Programme for the period from 1 September 1994 to 31 August 1995,

Recognizing the valuable assistance rendered over the years by the Programme to disadvantaged students in South Africa, its support for institution-building in that country and the measures it has taken to ensure that commitments made with regard to educational and training assistance can be met in full,

Fully recognizing the need for the Government of South Africa to lay a proper foundation, in particular in the field of human resources development, during the transition and post-apartheid period,

1. *Endorses* the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa;

2. *Agrees* with the recommendation of the Advisory Committee on the United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa that the Programme be extended for three to five years beyond April 1994;[142]

3. *Decides*, for the purpose of integrating the goals of the Programme with the overall multilateral development programmes of the United Nations Development Programme, to transfer, no later than 1 May 1996, management of the Programme and its funds and decision-making authority to the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme through the Executive Board of the Development Programme which will be entrusted with the following:

(*a*) To continue the United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa Trust Fund as an identifiable entity for three to five years beyond April 1994;

(*b*) To undertake fund-raising and mobilization of resources for the Programme;

(*c*) To monitor and review the Programme;

4. *Also decides* to endorse the activities of the Programme, and requests the United Nations Development Programme to continue to place the primary focus of the Programme on human resources development aimed at capacity- and institution-building by contributing to South Africa's human resources during this critical period of development through:

(*a*) Expanding arrangements for co-sponsored training for the disadvantaged majority in sectors previously neglected;

(*b*) Continuing to utilize the catalyst function of the Programme by expanding the co-sponsorship and job-placement arrangements with corporations, non-governmental organizations and educational institutions;

5. *Recommends* administrative streamlining with the objective of strengthening the office of the Programme in South Africa;

6. *Endorses* the recommendation that the Advisory Committee should be discontinued;[143]

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[141] A/50/750.

[142] Ibid., para. 27.

[143] Ibid., para. 32.

7. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Governments that have supported the Programme and to the organizations and agencies that have cooperated with it;

8. *Expresses its gratitude* to the Secretary-General and the staff of the United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa and to the Advisory Committee for their persistent efforts, and congratulates them for their outstanding achievements since the start of the Programme.

96th plenary meeting
20 December 1995

50/132. The situation in Central America: procedures for the establishment of a firm and lasting peace and progress in fashioning a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development

The General Assembly,

Recalling the relevant resolutions of the Security Council and its own resolutions, particularly resolutions 48/161 of 20 December 1993 and 49/137 of 19 December 1994, in which it recognized the importance of international support for Central America, within an appropriate global frame of reference, in order to preserve and extend the progress made in the process of consolidating peace, democracy and sustainable development and thereby to overcome the obstacles that are preventing Central America from becoming a region of peace, freedom, democracy and sustainable development,

Recognizing the importance and validity of the commitments made by the Central American Presidents since the Esquipulas II summit meeting of 7 August 1987[83] and their subsequent summit meetings, especially the fifteenth meeting, held at Guácimo, Costa Rica, from 18 to 20 August 1994,[84] the Central American Environment Summit for Sustainable Development, held at Managua on 12 and 13 October 1994,[85] the International Conference on Peace and Development in Central America, held at Tegucigalpa on 24 and 25 October 1994,[86] and the sixteenth meeting of Central American Presidents, held in El Salvador in March 1995,

Reaffirming that there can be no peace in Central America without sustainable development or democracy, which are essential for ensuring the processes of change in the region and for implementing the integrated proposal for sustainable development agreed on at the most recent meetings of Central American Presidents, in particular the Central American Environment Summit for Sustainable Development and the International Conference on Peace and Development in Central America,

Convinced of the hopes that inspire the peoples of Central America to achieve peace, reconciliation, development and social justice, and the commitment to settle their differences by means of dialogue, negotiation and respect for the legitimate interests of all States, in accordance with their own decision and their own historical experience, while fully respecting the principles of self-determination and non-intervention,

Recognizing the validity of the Declaration of Commitments in favour of the populations affected both by uprootedness and by conflicts and extreme poverty, adopted at Mexico City on 29 June 1994, and the role of lead agency which the United Nations Development Programme has assumed in the place of the mandate formerly discharged by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,

Drawing attention to the establishment of the Alliance for the Sustainable Development of Central America,[85] which constitutes the new integrated development strategy at the national and regional levels and defines the political, moral, economic, social and environmental priorities, and to the signing, at the El Salvador summit meeting in March 1995, of the Treaty on Central American Social Integration, one of whose main objectives is investment in human capital, and bearing in mind that the Central American Integration System is the institutional framework which makes possible the effective, ordered and coherent promotion of integrated development,

Emphasizing the importance of cooperation and international solidarity in supporting the efforts being made by the peoples and Governments of Central America for the consolidation of a firm and lasting peace, and the need to strengthen the new programme of cooperation and economic, technical and financial assistance for Central America in the light of the new situation in the region,

Noting the efforts made by the Central American Security Commission and the importance of the ongoing negotiation of the Central American security treaty in accelerating the establishment of a new model of regional security, as provided for in the Tegucigalpa Protocol,[2] and the agenda and programme of specific action for sustainable development adopted at the fifteenth Central American summit meeting, held at Guácimo,[84]

Welcoming the role played by the peace-keeping operations of the United Nations, which carried out fully their mandate in Central America pursuant to the relevant resolutions of the Security Council, and recognizing the importance of the observer and monitoring missions planned or under way in the region in accordance with the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly,

Stressing the importance of the determination of the Government of Guatemala and of the Unidad Revolucionaria Nacional Guatemalteca to achieve the full exercise of human rights and to reach, as promptly as possible, an agreement to establish a firm and lasting peace, in accordance with the Framework Agreement for the Resumption of the Negotiating Process between the Government of Guatemala and the Unidad Revolucionaria Nacional Guatemalteca of 10 January 1994[144] and the hopes of the Guatemalan people, and the importance of full compliance by both parties with the other agreed commitments,

Recalling its resolutions 48/267 of 19 September 1994, 49/236 A of 31 March 1995 and 49/236 B of 14 September 1995, by which it decided to establish the United Nations Mission for the Verification of Human Rights and of Compliance with the Commitments of the Comprehensive Agreement on Human Rights in Guatemala and extended the mandate of the Mission,

Emphasizing the role of international cooperation in national efforts towards peace, in particular in contributing to the trust fund for the Guatemala peace process set up by the Secretary-General on 1 March 1995,

Stressing also the importance of the current electoral process in strengthening the democratic institutions of Guatemala,

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[144] A/49/61-S/1994/53, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-ninth Year, Supplement for January, February and March 1994*, document S/1994/53.

Noting with satisfaction the signing of the Agreement on Identity and Rights of Indigenous Peoples on 31 March 1995, at Mexico City,[145] in the framework of the Guatemala peace process,

Noting with appreciation the efforts being made by the people and Government of El Salvador to consolidate the progress made in the transition towards a society characterized by democracy, the rule of law and respect for human rights, and commending the reaffirmation by the Government of El Salvador of its political will to honour fully its commitments under the Peace Agreement,[9] for the benefit of all Salvadorans,

Welcoming resolution 50/7 of 31 October 1995, in which it approved the proposal of the Secretary-General to extend the mandate of the Mission of the United Nations in El Salvador for a period of six months, with a gradual reduction of its strength and costs, in a manner consistent with the effective performance of its duties, in order to exercise his good offices and to monitor the application of pending questions related to the peace agreements,

Welcoming also the adoption of resolution 49/16 of 17 November 1994, in which it recognized the exceptional circumstances that still prevail in Nicaragua,

Recognizing that the efforts of the Government of Nicaragua to consolidate peace and democracy, repair its economy and rebuild the nation merit the urgent support of the international community and the United Nations system in order to preserve the gains made and overcome the effects of the war and natural disasters which persist in Nicaragua, and that the request of the Nicaraguan Government for United Nations observers during the elections to be held in 1996 also merits support,

Recognizing also the valuable and effective contribution made by the United Nations and by various governmental and non-governmental mechanisms to the gradual transformation of Central America into a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development, and the importance of the political dialogue and economic cooperation which are taking place in the ministerial conference between the European Union and the Central American countries, and the joint initiative by the industrialized countries of the Group of Twenty-four and the countries of the Group of Three[146] as cooperating countries, under the auspices of the Association for Democracy and Development in Central America,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General of 3 October 1995 on the situation in Central America,[147]

1. *Commends* the efforts of the peoples and Governments of the Central American countries to consolidate peace and promote sustainable development by implementing the agreements adopted at the summit meetings, especially the commitments adopted at the recent presidential meetings, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to give the fullest possible support to the initiatives and activities of the Governments of the Central American countries;

2. *Supports* the decision of the Presidents of the Central American countries to declare Central America a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development, and encourages the initiatives of the Central American countries, in the framework of the integrated strategy for sustainable development and based on the latest Central American meetings, to consolidate Governments that base their development on democracy, peace, cooperation and respect for human rights;

3. *Draws attention* to the decision of the Presidents of the Central American countries embodied in the Declaration of Guácimo,[84] in which the national and regional strategy known as the Alliance for the Sustainable Development of Central America became an integrated initiative reflected in a programme of immediate action in the political, moral, economic, social and environmental fields, through which the Central American countries hope to become, with the support of the international community, an example of sustainable development for other regions;

4. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Central American countries to promote economic growth oriented towards human development, as well as the progress achieved in strengthening democracy and consolidating peace in the region;

5. *Emphasizes* the work accomplished by the Central American Integration System, the registry of the Tegucigalpa Protocol[2] with the United Nations Secretariat and the granting of observer status by the General Assembly,[148] expresses its full support for the progress achieved by the Central American countries in stimulating and broadening the process of Central American integration, and calls on Member States and international organizations to provide effective cooperation to Central America so that subregional integration is strengthened and becomes an effective mechanism for achieving sustainable development;

6. *Supports* the concern of the Central American countries to create a new model of regional security based on a reasonable balance of forces and the pre-eminence of civil authority, urges the Central American Security Commission to pursue negotiations for the preparation of the treaty on democratic security in Central America, which constitutes one of the basic aims of the Central American Integration System, and requests the Secretary-General to provide it with the requisite support in a timely manner;

7. *Encourages* the Security Commission to pursue negotiations for the preparation of the treaty on democratic security in Central America with a view to speeding up the establishment of the new model of regional security;

8. *Stresses* the importance of intensifying the serious and resolute negotiations between the Government of Guatemala and the Unidad Revolucionaria Nacional Guatemalteca, and urges that negotiations on the remaining agenda items should be concluded without delay with a view to reaching at the earliest possible date a firm and lasting peace agreement, thus completing the peace process in Central America;

9. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the Agreement on Identity and Rights of Indigenous Peoples[145] as an important step in the peace process in Guatemala and a milestone in the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People;

10. *Calls upon* the parties to comply fully with their commitments under the Comprehensive Agreement on Human Rights in Guatemala and their human rights commitments under the Agreement on Identity and Rights of Indigenous Peoples and to implement the corresponding

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[145] A/49/882-S/1995/256, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fiftieth Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1995*, document S/1995/256.

[146] The group of cooperating countries, known as the "Group of Three", consists of Colombia, Mexico and Venezuela.

[147] A/50/499.

[148] Resolution 50/2.

recommendations of the United Nations Mission for the Verification of Human Rights and of Compliance with the Commitments of the Comprehensive Agreement on Human Rights in Guatemala;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General, the organizations of the United Nations system and the international community to continue their support for the peace process and hence for efforts to promote national reconciliation, democracy and development in Guatemala;

12. *Reiterates its appreciation* of the peace efforts of the Secretary-General, the Group of Friends (Colombia, Mexico, Norway, Spain, the United States of America and Venezuela) and the relevant United Nations bodies, as well as its appreciation of the contribution of the Assembly of Civil Society and other Guatemalans within the constitutional framework and the peace agreements;

13. *Welcomes* the Contadora Declaration signed on 22 August 1995 by the political forces of Guatemala, in which they committed themselves to assuring that the Government that will take office on 14 January 1996 will respect the agreements already reached in the peace process and will make every effort to bring that process to an early and successful conclusion;

14. *Calls upon* the Government of El Salvador and all the political forces involved in the peace process to make all possible efforts to complete the implementation of all remaining aspects of the Peace Agreement;[9]

15. *Notes with satisfaction* the establishment by the Secretary-General of the Trust Fund for the Mission of the United Nations in El Salvador and the extension of the Mission's mandate for a six-month period as from 31 October 1995 in order to continue to observe and monitor the implementation of the remaining commitments until they have been fully met, and emphasizes the importance of continued cooperation between the Mission of the United Nations in El Salvador and other organizations of the United Nations system in the consolidation of the Peace Agreement;

16. *Reiterates its recognition* of the effective and timely participation of the Secretary-General and his representatives and encourages them to continue to take all necessary steps to ensure the successful implementation of all the commitments made by the parties to the El Salvador Peace Agreement, including the joint effort undertaken by the Government of El Salvador and the Frente Farabundo Martí para la Liberación Nacional to obtain resources to facilitate the full implementation of the Peace Agreement;

17. *Recognizes* the achievements made by the people and Government of Nicaragua in their efforts to consolidate peace, democracy and reconciliation among Nicaraguans, as well as the importance of reaching a national understanding in order to define a national development strategy through political dialogue and economic and social consultation among all sectors of the country, thereby strengthening grass-roots support for the country's reconstruction, and emphasizes how important it is for the Secretary-General to comply with Nicaragua's request for observers to be present during the electoral process in 1996;

18. *Supports* the treatment accorded to Nicaragua in the light of its continuing exceptional circumstances, so that the international community and financial institutions can incorporate that treatment into programmes to support the country's economic recovery and social reconstruction;

19. *Expresses its appreciation* of the work of the support group for Nicaragua (Canada, Mexico, the Netherlands, Spain and Sweden), which, under the coordination of the Secretary-General, is playing an active role in supporting the country's efforts towards economic recovery and social development, particularly with regard to solving the external debt problem and securing investments and new resources that will allow the country's economic and social reconstruction programmes to continue, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to support those efforts;

20. *Emphasizes* the importance that the political dialogue and economic cooperation taking place within the ministerial conference between the European Union and its member States and the Central American countries, with the participation of the Group of Three[146] as cooperating countries, have for the efforts of the Central American countries to achieve peace, consolidate democracy and ensure sustainable development;

21. *Also emphasizes* the commitments on sustainable development adopted at the fifteenth meeting of Central American Presidents, held at Guácimo, Costa Rica,[84] the sixteenth meeting of Central American Presidents, held in El Salvador in March 1995, the Central American Environment Summit for Sustainable Development, held at Managua,[85] and the International Conference on Peace and Development in Central America, held at Tegucigalpa,[86] and urges the international community to give them every support;

22. *Reiterates* the importance of the support of the United Nations system through its operational activities, in particular the United Nations Development Programme, aimed at facilitating the development of programmes and projects which are indispensable for strengthening peace and the development process in the region, bearing particularly in mind the new strategy for subregional development established by the Alliance for the Sustainable Development of Central America,[149] and urges the international community to lend its support to the achievement of the goals of the new strategy for development in Central America;

23. *Recognizes* the importance of accessions to the Treaty on Central American Social Integration[87] and the fulfilment of the commitments made at Mexico City in June 1994 to benefit populations affected by uprooting, conflicts and extreme poverty;

24. *Reiterates its full appreciation and gratitude* to the Secretary-General for his efforts to promote the pacification process and the consolidation of peace in Central America, and to the groups of friendly countries which have made a direct contribution to attaining those ends, and requests that those efforts be continued;

25. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session on the implementation of the present resolution;

26. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session the item entitled "The situation in Central America: procedures for the establishment of a firm and lasting peace and progress in fashioning a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development".

96th plenary meeting
20 December 1995

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[149] See A/50/534.

50/133. Support by the United Nations system of the efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate new or restored democracies

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the indissoluble links between the principles enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[5] and the foundations of any democratic society,

Recalling the Manila Declaration[150] adopted in June 1988 by the First International Conference of New or Restored Democracies,[151]

Considering the major changes taking place on the international scene and the aspirations of all the peoples for an international order based on the principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, including the promotion and encouragement of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all and other important principles, such as respect for the equal rights and self-determination of peoples, peace, democracy, justice, equality, the rule of law, pluralism, development, better standards of living and solidarity,

Recalling also its resolution 49/30 of 7 December 1994, in which it recognized the importance of the Managua Declaration[152] and the Plan of Action[153] adopted by the Second International Conference of New or Restored Democracies in July 1994,

Recalling further the view expressed in the Managua Declaration that the international community must pay closer attention to the obstacles facing the new or restored democracies,

Taking note of the views of Member States expressed in the debate on this item at its forty-ninth and fiftieth sessions,

Bearing in mind that such activities of the United Nations carried out in support of the efforts of Governments are undertaken in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and only at the specific request of the Member States concerned,

Bearing in mind also that democracy, development and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms are interdependent and mutually reinforcing and that democracy is based on the freely expressed will of the people to determine their own political, economic, social and cultural systems and on their full participation in all aspects of their lives,

Noting that a considerable number of societies have recently undertaken considerable efforts to achieve their social, political and economic goals through democratization and the reform of their economies, pursuits that are deserving of the support and recognition of the international community,

Noting with satisfaction that a Third International Conference on New or Restored Democracies will take place at Bucharest,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General[154] on assistance provided in the past by the United Nations, at the request of Member States, as well as important concepts and considerations that are pertinent to this question,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General;

2. *Commends* the Secretary-General and through him the United Nations system for the activities undertaken at the request of Governments to support the efforts to consolidate democracy, as reflected in his report;

3. *Recognizes* that the Organization has an important role to play in providing timely, appropriate and coherent support to the efforts of Governments to achieve democratization within the context of their development efforts;

4. *Stresses* that activities undertaken by the Organization must be in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations;

5. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to improve the capacity of the Organization to respond effectively to the requests of Member States through coherent, adequate support of their efforts to achieve the goal of democratization;

6. *Encourages* Member States to promote democratization and to make additional efforts to identify possible steps to support the efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate new or restored democracies;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, including innovative ways and means, as well as new reflections, to enable the Organization to respond effectively and in an integrated manner to requests of Member States for assistance in this field;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session the item entitled "Support by the United Nations system of the efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate new or restored democracies".

96th plenary meeting
20 December 1995

50/134. Strengthening of international cooperation and coordination of efforts to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 45/190 of 21 December 1990, 46/150 of 18 December 1991, 47/165 of 18 December 1992 and 48/206 of 21 December 1993,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolutions 1990/50 of 13 July 1990, 1991/51 of 26 July 1991 and 1992/38 of 30 July 1992 and Council decision 1993/232 of 22 July 1993,

Taking note of the decisions adopted by the organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system in the implementation of General Assembly resolutions 45/190, 46/150, 47/165 and 48/206,

Noting with appreciation the contribution made by Member States and by organizations of the United Nations system to the development of cooperation to mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster, and the activities of regional and other organizations, in particular the Commission of the European Communities, as well as bilateral activities and those of non-governmental organizations,

Welcoming the commitments made by Member States in the Declaration on the Occasion of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the United Nations,[155] adopted on 24 October 1995, to intensify cooperation on natural disaster reduction and major technological and man-made disasters, disaster relief, post-disaster rehabilitation and humanitarian assistance in order to enhance the capabilities of affected countries to cope with such situations,

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[150] A/43/538, annex.

[151] Then called the International Conference of Newly Restored Democracies.

[152] A/49/713, annex I.

[153] Ibid., annex II.

[154] A/50/332 and Corr.1.

Conscious of the forthcoming tenth anniversary of the disaster at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant, which became the largest technological catastrophe in terms of its scope and created humanitarian, environmental, social, economic and health consequences and problems of common concern, requiring for their solution wide and active international cooperation and coordination of efforts in this field at the international and national levels,

Expressing profound concern about the ongoing effects on the lives and health of people, particularly children, in the affected areas of Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine, as well as in other countries most affected by the Chernobyl disaster,

Noting the readiness of Ukraine in principle to close the Chernobyl nuclear power plant by the year 2000, bearing in mind the need for adequate support from relevant countries and international organizations for that purpose,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General of 8 September 1995[156] on the implementation of resolution 48/206,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts in the implementation of General Assembly resolutions 45/190, 46/150, 47/165 and 48/206 and, through existing coordination mechanisms, in particular the United Nations Coordinator of International Cooperation on Chernobyl, to continue to maintain close cooperation with the agencies of the United Nations system, as well as with regional and other relevant organizations, with a view to encouraging the regular exchange of information, cooperation and coordination of multilateral and bilateral efforts in those areas, while implementing programmes and specific projects, *inter alia*, in the framework of relevant agreements and arrangements;

2. *Invites* Member States, in particular donor States, relevant multilateral financial institutions and other concerned parties of the international community, including non-governmental organizations, to provide support to the ongoing efforts made by Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine to cope with the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster, and requests the Secretary-General to appeal to Member States to continue and intensify that assistance;

3. *Notes* the establishment in Ukraine of an International Scientific and Technological Centre for Nuclear and Radiological Accidents as an important step towards enhancing the capabilities of the international community to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of such accidents, and invites all interested parties to take part in its activities;

4. *Declares* 26 April 1996 International Day Commemorating the Tenth Anniversary of the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant Accident, and invites Member States to conduct appropriate activities to commemorate this tragic event and to enhance public awareness of the consequences of such disasters for human health and the environment throughout the world;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session, under a separate sub-item, a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

96th plenary meeting
20 December 1995

50/155. Conference of States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of the Child

The General Assembly,

Recognizing the importance of the Committee on the Rights of the Child and the valuable contribution of its members to the evaluation and monitoring of the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child[157] by its States parties,

Noting with satisfaction that there are now one hundred and eighty-three States parties to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, a figure approaching universal ratification,

Noting that the amendment to article 43, paragraph 2, of the Convention was adopted by the Conference of States Parties to the Convention,

1. *Approves* the amendment to article 43, paragraph 2, of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, replacing the word "ten" with the word "eighteen";

2. *Urges* States parties to take appropriate measures so that acceptance by a two-thirds majority of the States parties can be reached as soon as possible in order for the amendment to enter into force.

97th plenary meeting
21 December 1995

50/158. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General of 17 October 1995 on cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity,[158]

Recalling the provisions of Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations on regional arrangements or agencies, which set forth the basic principles governing their activities and establishing the legal framework for cooperation with the United Nations in the area of the maintenance of international peace and security, as well as resolution 49/57 of 9 December 1994, the annex to which contains the Declaration on the Enhancement of Cooperation between the United Nations and Regional Arrangements or Agencies in the Maintenance of International Peace and Security,

Recalling also the agreement of 15 November 1965 on cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity as updated and signed on 9 October 1990 by the Secretaries-General of the two organizations,

Recalling further its resolutions on the enhancement of cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity, in particular resolutions 43/12 of 25 October 1988, 43/27 of 18 November 1988, 44/17 of 1 November 1989, 45/13 of 7 November 1990, 46/20 of 26 November 1991, 47/148 of 18 December 1992, 48/25 of 29 November 1993 and 49/64 of 15 December 1994,

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[155] Resolution 50/6.

[156] A/50/418.

[157] Resolution 44/25, annex.

[158] A/50/575 and Add.1.

Recalling that, in its resolutions 46/20, 47/148 and 48/25, it, *inter alia*, urged the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the relevant agencies of the United Nations system to extend their support for the establishment of the African Economic Community,

Recalling also its resolution 48/214 of 23 December 1993 on the implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s,

Taking note of the resolutions, decisions and declarations adopted by the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity at its sixty-second ordinary session, held at Addis Ababa from 21 to 23 June 1995, and by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its thirty-first ordinary session, held at Addis Ababa from 26 to 28 June 1995,[159]

Considering the important statement made by the representative of the current Chairman of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity before the General Assembly on 27 September 1995,[160]

Mindful of the need for continued and closer cooperation between the United Nations and its specialized agencies and the Organization of African Unity, in particular in the political, economic, social, technical, cultural and administrative fields,

Noting that the Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution of the Organization of African Unity is developing its capacity in preventive diplomacy,

Also noting the efforts of the Organization of African Unity, and the support and assistance of the United Nations, to promote the peaceful settlement of disputes and conflicts in Africa and the harmonious continuation of the process of democratization,

Deeply concerned that, despite the policies of reform being implemented by most African countries, their economic situation remains critical and African recovery and development continue to be severely hindered by the persistence of lower-level commodity prices, the heavy debt burden and the paucity of funding possibilities,

Aware of the efforts being made by the Organization of African Unity and its member States in the area of economic integration and of the need to accelerate the process of implementation of the African Economic Community,

Deeply concerned also about the gravity of the situation of refugees and displaced persons in Africa and the urgent need for increased international assistance to help refugees and, subsequently, African countries of asylum,

Acknowledging the assistance already rendered by the international community, in particular to refugees, displaced persons and African countries of asylum,

Recognizing the importance of developing and maintaining a culture of peace, tolerance and harmonious relationships in order to contribute to the prevention of conflicts and wars in Africa,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity and of his efforts to strengthen that cooperation and to implement the relevant resolutions;

2. *Notes with appreciation* the continued and increasing participation of the Organization of African Unity in the work of the United Nations and the specialized agencies and its constructive contribution to that work;

3. *Calls upon* the United Nations organs, in particular the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council, to continue to involve the Organization of African Unity closely in all their activities concerning Africa;

4. *Welcomes* the fact that both the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity have agreed to strengthen and broaden their cooperation in measures to prevent and resolve conflicts in Africa, and in this regard invites the United Nations to provide the Organization of African Unity with the necessary support for the promotion of a culture of peace, tolerance and harmonious relationships in Africa;

5. *Calls upon* the United Nations to coordinate its efforts and to cooperate with the Organization of African Unity in the context of the pacific settlement of disputes and the maintenance of international peace and security in Africa, as provided for under Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations;

6. *Commends* the efforts of the Organization of African Unity to strengthen its capacity in the field of conflict resolution and to operationalize its Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution in Africa;

7. *Also commends* the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity for their ongoing cooperative activities in the resolution of conflicts in Africa, and stresses the need to enhance and strengthen the existing pattern of exchange of information and consultations, especially in the areas of preventive diplomacy, peacemaking and peace-keeping operations;

8. *Invites* the United Nations to assist the Organization of African Unity, within existing resources, in strengthening its institutional and operational capacity in the prevention, management and resolution of conflicts in Africa, in particular in the following areas:

(*a*) Establishment of an early-warning system;

(*b*) Technical assistance and training of personnel, including a staff exchange programme;

(*c*) Exchange and coordination of information between their respective early-warning systems;

(*d*) Logistical support;

(*e*) Mobilization of financial support;

9. *Urges* the United Nations to facilitate the participation of the Organization of African Unity in its peacemaking and peace-keeping operations and, with the consent of parties concerned, in joint fact-finding missions in Africa, by providing technical assistance and assisting in the mobilization of financial and logistical support;

10. *Notes with appreciation* the assistance provided by the United Nations and its agencies to African countries in the context of the democratization process;

11. *Urges* the United Nations to continue to support the Organization of African Unity in its efforts to manage a peaceful democratic transition in Africa, in particular in the areas of education for democracy, election observation, human rights and freedom, including technical support to the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights;

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[159] A/50/647, annexes I and II.

[160] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Plenary Meetings*, 9th meeting, and corrigenda.

12. *Urges* all Member States and regional and international organizations, in particular those of the United Nations system, as well as non-governmental organizations, to provide the necessary and appropriate economic, financial and technical assistance to refugees and displaced persons, as well as to African countries of asylum, taking into account recent disquieting developments in this respect;

13. *Commends* the continued efforts of the Organization of African Unity to promote multilateral cooperation and economic integration among African States, and requests United Nations agencies to continue to support those efforts;

14. *Stresses* that the economic, technical and development assistance provided to Africa by the organizations of the United Nations system must continue, and emphasizes the current need for those organizations to accord priority to Africa in this field;

15. *Urges* the Secretary-General, Member States, regional and international organizations, in particular those of the United Nations system, and non-governmental organizations to extend their support to the operations of the African Economic Community and to assist in economic integration and cooperation in Africa;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to support the efforts of the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity, in particular in the preparation of the first meeting of the Economic and Social Commission of the African Economic Community, the strengthening of the regional economic communities, and the preparation of the protocols to the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community, its popularization and the strengthening of its institutional support;

17. *Requests* the agencies of the United Nations system working in Africa to include in their programmes at the national and regional levels activities that will enhance regional cooperation in their respective areas and to facilitate the realization of the objectives of the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community;

18. *Calls upon* United Nations agencies to intensify the coordination of their regional programmes in Africa in order to create interlinkages among them and to ensure the harmonization of their programmes with those of the African regional and subregional economic organizations;

19. *Emphasizes* the urgency of the need to adopt appropriate measures to ensure the effective implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s, in particular in the areas of resource flows, debt relief and diversification of African economies;

20. *Invites* the Secretary-General to associate the Organization of African Unity closely with the follow-up and monitoring of the implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s, including the conduct of the mid-term review of its implementation in 1996;

21. *Recalls* its resolution 48/214, in paragraph 10 of which it invited the Secretary-General to reinforce the capabilities of the Office of the Special Coordinator for Africa and the Least Developed Countries of the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development of the Secretariat to follow up and promote the responses of the United Nations system and the international community to the development concerns of Africa, as expressed in the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s;

22. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the recommendations of the meeting between the secretariats of the Organization of African Unity and the United Nations held at Addis Ababa from 6 to 9 November 1995, and endorses the convening of a meeting in 1996, at Addis Ababa, to review and evaluate the progress made in the implementation of the recommendations agreed at the November meeting and to adopt new and effective joint action;

23. *Calls upon* the relevant organs of the United Nations system to ensure the effective, fair and equitable representation of Africa at senior and policy levels at their respective headquarters and in their regional field operations;

24. *Requests* the relevant organs of the United Nations system to assist the Organization of African Unity to strengthen its capacity for information gathering, analysis and dissemination through the training of personnel and the mobilization of technical and financial assistance;

25. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session on the implementation of the present resolution and on the development of cooperation between the Organization of African Unity and the organizations of the United Nations system.

97th plenary meeting
21 December 1995

50/159. The situation in Burundi

The General Assembly,

Taking into account the report of the Secretary-General of 11 October 1995,[102]

Noting with satisfaction the beneficial role played by the Secretary-General, and welcoming the mission carried out by his Special Representative for Burundi,

Noting also the praiseworthy efforts made by the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity and his Special Representative,

Welcoming the holding at Bujumbura from 15 to 17 February 1995 of the Regional Conference on Assistance to Refugees, Returnees and Displaced Persons in the Great Lakes Region, pursuant to resolution CM/Res.1527 (LX) of the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity,

Reaffirming its resolution 48/118 of 20 December 1993, which stresses the necessity of mobilizing assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa,

Recognizing the importance of the missions carried out in August 1994 and February 1995 by representatives of the Security Council and of the statements by the President of the Security Council of 9 March 1995[161] and 29 March 1995[162] on the situation in Burundi,

Recognizing also the efforts being made by the Organization of African Unity and by its current Chairman to assist Burundi in regaining peace, confidence and stability,

Recognizing further the important role played by the Organization of African Unity Mission in Burundi, and stressing the need for the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity to coordinate their efforts in dealing with the situation in Burundi,

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[161] *Official Records of the Security Council, Fiftieth Year, Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1995*, document S/PRST/1995/10.

[162] Ibid., document S/PRST/1995/13.

Welcoming the agreement signed on 22 September 1994 by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Government of Burundi on the implementation of a major programme of technical assistance and advisory services in the field of human rights, the various components of which form part of preventive action supported by the international community,

Appreciating the efforts of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to promote and protect human rights in Burundi, in particular by setting up an office of the Centre for Human Rights of the Secretariat and by mobilizing international cooperation in the quest for peace and security in Burundi,

Reiterating the special importance of the Convention on Governance signed on 10 September 1994,

Welcoming the constructive negotiations between the parties signatories to the Convention on Governance, which resulted in the formation of a coalition Government on 1 March 1995,

Expressing great regret at the subversive acts, acts of violence and looting perpetrated by armed terrorist groups and armed militias against innocent populations which seriously jeopardize civil peace,

Welcoming the joint message of the President and the Prime Minister of Burundi addressed to the Secretary-General, and condemning the inflammatory broadcasts transmitted by the radio station "La voix de la démocratie – Ijwi Ry'abanyagihugu", as well as those transmitted by other radio stations which incite ethnic hatred in Burundi,

Stressing the importance of cooperation between all parties in Burundi in order to achieve national reconciliation and respect for human rights,

Taking note of the declaration on Burundi adopted by the Eleventh Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, from 18 to 20 October 1995,[163]

Welcoming the establishment, by Security Council resolution 1012 (1995) of 28 August 1995, of the International Commission of Inquiry in Burundi, as mandated in paragraph 1 of that resolution,

Welcoming also the Declaration adopted at Cairo on 29 November 1995 by the heads of State of the Great Lakes region[107] with the assistance of President Jimmy Carter, President Julius Nyerere and Archbishop Desmond Tutu,

1. *Congratulates* the political parties of the Mouvance présidentielle and of the Burundian opposition on the outcome of their dialogue and their concerted action, which led to the formation of a coalition Government representing the different shades of opinion;

2. *Calls upon* all the guarantors of the Convention on Governance to ensure its full and impartial implementation for the benefit of all;

3. *Again encourages* all the parties to that Convention and its additional protocols to abide strictly by them;

4. *Urges* all political parties, military leaders, the media and civil society to dissociate themselves from extremist forces, to reject all extremism and all ethnic or political fanaticism, to settle disputes through negotiation and dialogue and to unite in order to bring about national reconciliation and respect for human rights;

5. *Expresses its conviction* concerning the need to increase preventive action in Burundi without delay, in particular through the presence of human rights experts and through human rights training programmes, in full cooperation with the Government of Burundi;

6. *Strongly urges* all the people of Burundi to cooperate with the coalition Government and with the security forces to promote national reconciliation and to fight all forms of extremism, in particular by armed terrorist groups and armed militias;

7. *Condemns* all those from within or outside the country who are attacking innocent populations, arming extremists, heedlessly violating human rights and seriously undermining national peace and security;

8. *Calls upon* all parties to create the conditions for the return of refugees and internally displaced persons;

9. *Also condemns* the militia attack on the Organization of African Unity Mission in Burundi which took place on 14 June 1995 in the province of Cibitoke and resulted in the death of a military observer of that organization;

10. *Endorses* resolution CM/Res.1582 (LXII) on Burundi, adopted by the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity at its sixty-second ordinary session, held at Addis Ababa from 21 to 23 June 1995;[164]

11. *Endorses also* the declaration on Burundi adopted at Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, on 20 October 1995 by the heads of State or Government of non-aligned countries;

12. *Requests* the States Members of the United Nations and international organizations to cooperate with the Government of Burundi and other Governments of the region in the identification and dismantling of radio stations which incite hatred and encourage acts of genocide;

13. *Invites* all political partners to organize, in accordance with the Convention on Governance, a national debate on the country's basic problems with a view to the conclusion of a national covenant and the adoption of a constitution adapted to the current socio-political requirements;

14. *Supports* the role assigned to the International Commission of Inquiry in Burundi, as mandated by Security Council resolution 1012 (1995), as an important step towards the eradication of impunity;

15. *Encourages* the international community and the Government of Burundi to implement the various recommendations of the Plan of Action adopted by the Regional Conference on Assistance to Refugees, Returnees and Displaced Persons in the Great Lakes Region, held at Bujumbura from 15 to 17 February 1995;

16. *Appeals earnestly* to the States that signed the Cairo Declaration on the Great Lakes Region of 29 November 1995 to abide faithfully by the commitments embodied in that declaration and designed to provide appropriate solutions in order to eliminate the socio-political conflicts currently taking place in that part of Africa;

17. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue his contacts with a view to an early convening of the Regional Conference on Security, Stability and Development in the Great Lakes Region of Central Africa, under the auspices of the United Nations, with the collaboration of the Organization of African Unity and with the participation of all the countries of the region;

18. *Reiterates its urgent appeal* to the international community to continue its efforts to mobilize political, dip-

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[163] See A/50/752-S/1995/1035; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fiftieth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1995*, document S/1995/1035.

[164] See A/50/647, annex I.

lomatic, human, economic, financial and material resources with a view to assisting Burundi in definitively overcoming the crisis which it has been facing for more than two years;

19. *Invites* the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity to continue their respective and complementary missions aimed at securing effective national reconciliation in Burundi, and welcomes in particular the positive role played by the Organization of African Unity Mission observers;

20. *Expresses the hope* that the Secretary-General of the United Nations will undertake consultations, following the usual procedure, with the Government of Burundi for the appointment as soon as possible of a special representative possessing all the qualifications, particularly an in-depth knowledge of the socio-political situation in Burundi;

21. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session the item entitled "The situation in Burundi".

98th plenary meeting
22 December 1995

50/160. Implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 46/151 of 18 December 1991, the annex to which contains the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s, in paragraphs 43 (*c*) and (*e*) and 44 of which it decided, *inter alia*, to conduct a mid-term review and a final review and assessment of the implementation of the New Agenda,

Reaffirming also its resolutions 48/214 of 23 December 1993 and 49/142 of 23 December 1994 concerning the implementation of the New Agenda,

Recalling its resolution 45/253 of 21 December 1990 on programme planning, in which the economic recovery and development of Africa was stated to be one of the five overall priorities in the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997,[165]

Taking note of the document entitled "Relaunching Africa's economic and social development: the Cairo Agenda for Action" adopted by the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity at its seventeenth extraordinary session, held at Cairo from 25 to 28 March 1995, and endorsed by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity in its resolution AHG/Res.236 (XXXI) of 28 June 1995,[166]

Taking note also of resolution CM/Res.1596 (LXII) of 23 June 1995 of the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity on the implementation of the New Agenda,[164] endorsed by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government,

Bearing in mind the report of the Secretary-General of 20 June 1995[167] to the high-level segment of the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1995, devoted to the consideration of the development of Africa, including the implementation of the New Agenda, and the summary made by the President of the Council of the debate during the high-level segment,[168]

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General of 6 October 1995 on advancing financial intermediation in Africa[169] and of 11 October 1995 on diversification of Africa's commodities,[170]

Recalling that the prime objective of the New Agenda is to stop and reverse the continuing deterioration in the socio-economic situation of African countries and to renew the commitment of the international community to support Africa's own efforts to achieve sustained economic growth and sustainable development,

Expressing serious concern about the limited progress made so far in the implementation of the New Agenda and the continuing deterioration of the economic and social situation in Africa,

Mindful of the urgent need for African countries to increase and mobilize internal resources for the implementation of the New Agenda through, *inter alia*, policies for the promotion of domestic savings, improved and accessible banking facilities and further improvements in traditional practices of capital formation at local levels, as well as to continue creating an enabling environment for domestic and foreign investment,

Acknowledging that effective, equitable, development-oriented and durable solutions have to be found to the problems of external debt and the burden of debt which continue to impede the socio-economic development of African countries despite measures taken on both a bilateral and a multilateral basis to reduce or reschedule their debt,

Recognizing the possible adverse effects and looking forward to the challenges and opportunities for African countries of the implementation of the agreements of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations[171] and the urgent need for further technical and financial assistance to African countries, with a view, *inter alia*, to identifying the adverse effects and alleviating them through appropriate measures, including possible supportive measures, as appropriate, in order to maximize their participation in the world trading system,

Recognizing also the urgent need to continue to assist African countries in their efforts to diversify their economies,

Recognizing further that the mid-term review of the implementation of the New Agenda should provide an opportunity for the international community to conduct an in-depth assessment of the actions so far taken in the implementation of the New Agenda and the measures needed for sustained economic growth and sustainable development in Africa beyond the 1990s, and to continue to develop policies and measures, including new and/or corrective policies and measures, as appropriate, and continued external support to the efforts of African countries in all areas, so as to ensure the timely, effective and full implementation of the New Agenda during the remaining part of the decade,

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[165] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 6* (A/47/6/Rev.1), vol. I, programme 45.

[166] See A/50/647, annex II.

[167] E/1995/81.

[168] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/50/3), chap. II.

[169] A/50/490.

[170] A/50/520.

[171] See *Legal Instruments Embodying the Results of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations, done at Marrakesh on 15 April 1994* (GATT secretariat publication, Sales No. GATT/1994-7), vol. 1.

Bearing in mind its resolution 42/163 of 8 December 1987 on the critical economic situation in Africa, in which it established an Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole of the General Assembly as the most appropriate mechanism to prepare the review and appraisal of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development 1986-1990, and its resolutions 43/27 of 18 November 1988 and 45/178 A of 19 December 1990 on that review and appraisal,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the reports of the Secretary-General on advancing financial intermediation in Africa and on diversification of Africa's commodities;

2. *Takes note also* of the summary made by the President of the Economic and Social Council of the debate during the high-level segment of the Council at its substantive session of 1995, devoted to the consideration of the development of Africa, including the implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s;

3. *Reaffirms* the need for the effective implementation of the New Agenda and, to that effect, calls upon the donor countries and all other parties concerned to fulfil their respective commitments as stated in the New Agenda, and calls upon African countries to implement the measures necessary to achieve the goals of the New Agenda;

4. *Decides* to establish an ad hoc committee of the whole of the fiftieth session of the General Assembly as the most appropriate mechanism to prepare the mid-term review in 1996 of the implementation of the New Agenda, as provided for in the annex to resolution 46/151;

5. *Also decides* to convene an organizational session of the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole as soon as possible but not later than 30 June 1996, for two working days, to consider and adopt the necessary arrangements for its work regarding, *inter alia*, the mid-term review of the implementation of the New Agenda, and that the Ad Hoc Committee should have its Bureau constituted at the highest appropriate level and composed of a Chairman, three Vice-Chairmen and a Rapporteur;

6. *Further decides* that the Ad Hoc Committee should meet for a period of up to seven working days in September 1996, prior to the fifty-first session of the General Assembly, to prepare the mid-term review on the basis of a report to be prepared by the Secretary-General, including relevant inputs from Governments and/or organizations and programmes of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental organizations, in particular the Organization of African Unity and non-governmental organizations, regarding their efforts and experiences in implementing the New Agenda;

7. *Invites* the Economic Commission for Africa to submit a report to the Secretary-General by June 1996 on actions taken and progress achieved by African countries in the implementation of the New Agenda;

8. *Decides* that the Ad Hoc Committee, in carrying out its mandate, should submit its findings to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session and propose concrete measures and recommendations for sustained economic growth and sustainable development in Africa beyond the 1990s;

9. *Urges* Member States and organs and bodies of the United Nations system to be represented at the highest appropriate level and to participate actively in the work of the Ad Hoc Committee;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Ad Hoc Committee a report on the implementation of the New Agenda, including a summary and assessment of national efforts based on relevant inputs from African countries, and to continue ensuring close cooperation and coordination with the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity concerning the contributions of the relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, including the Economic Commission for Africa, the United Nations Development Programme, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the United Nations Children's Fund, in the context of his report on the preparation of the mid-term review of the implementation of the New Agenda;

11. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to include in his report to the Ad Hoc Committee estimates of the projected resource requirements from all sources, public and private, domestic and international, needed for the full implementation of the New Agenda, the amount expected to be mobilized and proposals for filling any resource gaps, taking into account the specific economic and development situation of African countries;

12. *Further requests* the Secretary-General, in close cooperation with the organs and organizations of the United Nation system concerned, to ensure the necessary preparation of the meetings of the Ad Hoc Committee;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session a report on the work of the Ad Hoc Committee and on the implementation of the present resolution.

98th plenary meeting
22 December 1995

50/161. Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 46/139 of 17 December 1991, 47/92 of 16 December 1992 and 48/100 of 20 December 1993,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council decision 1991/230 of 30 May 1991, resolutions 1992/27 of 30 July 1992 and 1995/60 of 28 July 1995, and agreed conclusions 1995/1 of 28 July 1995,[172]

Having considered the report of the World Summit for Social Development, held at Copenhagen from 6 to 12 March 1995,[173]

Expressing its profound gratitude to the Government and people of Denmark for the hospitality extended to all participants at the Summit and for the facilities, staff and services placed at their disposal,

Expressing its satisfaction that for the first time in history, at the invitation of the United Nations, heads of State and Government gathered at Copenhagen to recognize the significance of social development and human well-being for all and to give to those goals the highest priority both now and into the twenty-first century by reaching a successful conclusion and adopting the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development,[174]

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[172] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/50/3), chap. III, para. [illegible]2.

[173] A/CONF.166/9.

Critical importance of national action and international cooperation for social development

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the World Summit for Social Development;

2. *Takes note also* of the report of the Secretary-General of 26 October 1995 on implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development;[175]

3. *Endorses* the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development[176] and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development,[177] adopted on 12 March 1995;

4. *Reaffirms* the pledge by the heads of State and Government at the Summit to give highest priority to national, regional and international policies and actions for the promotion of social progress, justice and the betterment of the human condition, based on full participation by all;

5. *Recognizes* the necessity to create a framework for action to place people at the centre of development and direct economies to meet human needs more effectively;

6. *Stresses* the need for a renewed and massive political will at the national and international levels to invest in people and their well-being to achieve the objectives of social development;

7. *Emphasizes* that economic development, social development and environmental protection are interdependent and mutually reinforcing components of sustainable development;

8. *Recognizes* that social development and the implementation of the Programme of Action are primarily the responsibility of Governments, although international cooperation and assistance are essential for their full implementation;

9. *Reiterates* the call to Governments to define time-bound goals and targets for reducing overall poverty and eradicating absolute poverty, expanding employment and reducing unemployment, and enhancing social integration, within each national context;

10. *Emphasizes* that there is a need for promotion of an integrated and multidimensional approach for the implementation of the Declaration and Programme of Action at all levels;

11. *Also reiterates* the call for formulating or strengthening by 1996 comprehensive cross-sectoral strategies for implementing the outcome of the Summit and national strategies for social development, including government action, actions by States in cooperation with other Governments and international, regional and subregional organizations, and actions taken in partnership and cooperation with actors of civil society, the private sector and cooperatives, with specific responsibilities to be undertaken by each actor and with agreed priorities and time-frames;

12. *Further reiterates* the call for regularly assessing national progress towards implementing the outcome of the Summit, possibly in the form of periodic national reports, outlining successes, problems and obstacles; such reports could be considered within the framework of an appropriate consolidated reporting system, taking into account the different reporting procedures in the economic, social and environmental fields;

13. *Reaffirms* the need for effective partnership and cooperation between Governments and the relevant actors of civil society, the social partners and the major groups as defined in Agenda 21,[54] including non-governmental organizations and the private sector, in the implementation of and follow-up to the Declaration and Programme of Action, and for ensuring their involvement in the planning, elaboration, implementation and evaluation of social policies at the national level;

14. *Recognizes* that the implementation of the Declaration and Programme of Action will require the mobilization of financial resources at the national and international levels, as set out in commitments 8 and 9 of the Declaration and paragraphs 87 to 93 of the Programme of Action;

15. *Also recognizes* that the implementation of the Declaration and Programme of Action in developing countries, in particular in Africa and the least developed countries, will need additional financial resources and more effective development cooperation and assistance;

16. *Concurs* that substantial debt reduction is needed to enable developing countries to implement the Declaration and Programme of Action, as set out in commitment 9 (*o*) of the Declaration and paragraph 90 of the Programme of Action;

17. *Reaffirms* the importance of agreeing on a mutual commitment between interested developed and developing country partners to allocate, on average, 20 per cent of official development assistance and 20 per cent of the national budget, respectively, to basic social programmes;

18. *Recognizes* the necessity of providing appropriate technical cooperation and other forms of assistance to the countries with economies in transition, as set out in the provisions of the Declaration and Programme of Action;

19. *Urges* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and other multilateral development institutions, to study the impact of structural adjustment programmes on economic and social development and to assist adjusting countries in creating conditions for economic growth, job creation, poverty eradication and social development;

20. *Encourages* Governments as well as public and private institutions and organizations to take initiatives relevant to the high priority attached by the Summit to social development and to the implementation of the objectives and commitments adopted at the Summit;

The role of the United Nations system

21. *Calls upon* all relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to be involved in the follow-up to the Summit, and invites specialized agencies and related organizations of the United Nations system to strengthen and adjust their activities, programmes and medium-term strategies, as appropriate, to take into account the follow-up to the Summit;

22. *Reaffirms* that the follow-up to the Summit will be undertaken on the basis of an integrated approach to social development and within the framework of a coordinated follow-up to and implementation of the results of the major

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[174] Ibid., chap. I, resolution 1.

[175] A/50/670.

[176] A/CONF.166/9, chap. I, annex I.

[177] Ibid., chap. I, annex II.

international conferences in the economic, social and related fields;

23. *Decides* that the General Assembly, through its role in policy formulation, the Economic and Social Council, through its role in overall guidance and coordination, in accordance with their respective roles under the Charter of the United Nations and with Assembly resolution 48/162 of 20 December 1993, and a revitalized Commission for Social Development shall constitute a three-tiered intergovernmental process in the follow-up to the implementation of the Declaration and Programme of Action;

24. *Also decides* to hold a special session of the General Assembly in the year 2000 for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of the Summit and to consider further actions and initiatives;

25. *Also reaffirms* that the Economic and Social Council will provide overall guidance and oversee system-wide coordination in the implementation of the outcome of the Summit and make recommendations in this regard;

26. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council, so that it can review progress made towards implementing the outcome of the Summit as well as improving its own effectiveness, to continue examining ways, consistent with the mandates of the Charter and in accordance with General Assembly resolutions 45/264 of 13 May 1991, 46/235 of 13 April 1992 and 48/162, to strengthen its role, authority, structures, resources and processes, bringing specialized agencies into a closer working relationship with it;

27. *Invites* the Economic and Social Council to review the reporting system in the area of social development with a view to establishing a coherent system that could result in clear policy recommendations for Governments and international actors;

28. *Calls upon* the Commission for Social Development, as a functional commission of the Economic and Social Council with the primary responsibility for the follow-up to and review of the implementation of the Summit, to develop a multi-year programme of work to the year 2000, selecting specific themes and addressing them from an interrelated and integrated perspective, in a manner consistent with the functions and contributions of other relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, and to present its recommendations to the Council, which should ensure harmonization between such a multi-year programme of work and those of other relevant functional commissions of the Council;

29. *Endorses* Economic and Social Council resolution 1995/60, and calls upon the Commission for Social Development, when developing at its next session its multi-year programme of work for the follow-up to the Summit:

(*a*) To adapt its mandate in order to ensure an integrated approach to social development;

(*b*) To integrate the current sectoral issues on its agenda in the multi-year programme;

(*c*) To review and update its methods of work and to make recommendations to ensure an effective follow-up to the Summit;

(*d*) To establish the practice of inviting experts to contribute to its work;

(*e*) To consider integrating into its work high-level representatives on social development issues and policies;

30. *Requests* the Commission for Social Development, in view of the scope of its work, to consider at its next session the composition of the membership of the Commission and the frequency of its sessions and to make recommendations thereon to the Economic and Social Council;

31. *Also requests* the Commission for Social Development to establish the practice of involving the relevant actors of civil society in the field of social development to contribute to its work, and requests the Secretary-General to present proposals to the Commission for Social Development and the Economic and Social Council for consideration at their next sessions, taking into account the experience gained in other functional commissions, the Council and the International Labour Organization and at the Summit;

32. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council, without prejudice to the outcome of the review of consultative arrangements by the Open-ended Working Group on the Review of Arrangements for Consultations with Non-Governmental Organizations, to consider authorizing the participation at the next session of the Commission for Social Development of interested civil society organizations that participated, by accreditation, in the Summit;

33. *Invites*, within their mandates, the regional commissions, in cooperation with the regional intergovernmental organizations and banks, to consider convening, on a biennial basis, a meeting at a high political level to review progress made towards implementing the outcome of the Summit, to exchange views on their respective experiences and to adopt the appropriate measures;

34. *Emphasizes* the important role of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in monitoring those aspects of the Declaration and Programme of Action that relate to compliance by States parties with the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights;

35. *Notes* the establishment of task forces for the follow-up to the Summit and other related United Nations conferences, and invites the Administrative Committee on Coordination to bring system-wide coordination issues to the attention of the Economic and Social Council, in particular its coordination segment, and to make recommendations thereon;

36. *Reiterates* that United Nations operational activities should be strengthened in order to contribute to the implementation of the outcome of the Summit in accordance with relevant resolutions;

37. *Requests* the United Nations Development Programme to facilitate the efforts of the United Nations system towards capacity-building at the local, national and regional levels and to support the coordinated implementation of social development programmes through the resident coordinator system;

38. *Invites* the International Labour Organization, which, because of its mandate, tripartite structure and expertise, has a special role to play in social development in the field of employment, to continue to contribute to the implementation of the Programme of Action;

39. *Invites* the Bretton Woods institutions to be actively involved in the implementation of and follow-up to the Summit and to enhance their cooperation with other parts of the United Nations system for this purpose;

40. *Invites* the World Trade Organization to consider how it might contribute to the implementation of the Programme of Action, including activities in cooperation with the United Nations system;

41. *Invites* the Secretary-General, including within the framework of the Administrative Committee on Coordination, to make appropriate arrangements, which may include joint meetings, for consultations with the heads of the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, the International Labour Organization, the United Nations funds and programmes, and other relevant agencies, for the purpose of cooperating in the implementation of the Declaration and the Programme of Action in their respective organizations;

42. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure an effectively functioning secretariat, within which clear responsibility is assigned to assist with the implementation of and follow-up to the Summit and the servicing of the intergovernmental bodies involved;

43. *Also requests* the Secretary-General and the United Nations bodies to take appropriate measures, in a coordinated manner, to strengthen the United Nations capacity for gathering and analysing information and developing indicators of social development, taking into account the work carried out by different countries, in particular by developing countries, as well as for providing policy and technical support and advice, upon request, to improve national capacities in this regard;

44. *Decides* that the trust fund of the World Summit for Social Development, established in accordance with General Assembly resolution 47/92 of 16 December 1992 to finance preparatory activities, be continued and renamed the Trust Fund for the Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development, under the authority of the Secretary-General, with the aim of supporting programmes, seminars and activities for the promotion of social development in implementation of the Declaration and Programme of Action, including activities of the United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty, and invites all States to contribute to the Fund;

45. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council to consider new and innovative ideas for generating funds and to offer for this purpose any useful suggestions;

46. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to disseminate as widely as possible the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development, including to all competent organs of the United Nations and the specialized agencies;

47. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session the item entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development", and to consider the implications for a more coherent treatment of related items on its agenda in the appropriate forums.

98th plenary meeting
22 December 1995

III. RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED ON THE REPORTS OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE[1]

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[1] For the decisions adopted on the reports of the First Committee, see sect. IX.B.2.

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50/60. Compliance with arms limitation and disarmament agreements

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 48/63 of 16 December 1993 and other relevant resolutions on the question,

Recognizing the abiding concern of all Member States for maintaining respect for rights and obligations arising from treaties and other sources of international law,

Convinced that observance of the Charter of the United Nations, relevant treaties and other sources of international law is essential for the strengthening of international security,

Mindful, in particular, of the fundamental importance of full implementation and strict observance of agreements and other obligations on arms limitation and disarmament if individual nations and the international community are to derive enhanced security from them,

Stressing that any violation of such agreements and other obligations not only adversely affects the security of States parties but can also create security risks for other States relying on the constraints and commitments stipulated in those agreements and other obligations,

Stressing also that any weakening of confidence in such agreements and other obligations diminishes their contribution to global or regional stability and to further disarmament and arms limitation efforts and undermines the credibility and effectiveness of the international legal system,

Recognizing, in this context, that full compliance by parties with all provisions of existing agreements and the resolving of compliance concerns effectively by means consistent with such agreements and international law can, *inter alia*, facilitate the conclusion of additional arms limitation and disarmament agreements, and thereby contribute to better relations among States and the strengthening of world peace and security,

Believing that compliance with all provisions of arms limitation and disarmament agreements by States parties is a matter of interest and concern to all members of the international community, and noting the role that the United Nations has played and should continue to play in that regard,

Welcoming the universal recognition of the critical importance of the question of compliance with and verification of arms limitation and disarmament agreements and other obligations,

1. *Urges* all States parties to arms limitation and disarmament agreements to implement and comply with the entirety of the spirit and all provisions of such agreements;

2. *Calls upon* all Member States to give serious consideration to the implications that non-compliance with any provisions of arms limitation and disarmament obligations has for international security and stability, as well as for the prospects for further progress in the field of disarmament;

3. *Also calls upon* all Member States to support efforts aimed at the resolution of compliance questions by means consistent with such agreements and international law, with a view to encouraging strict observance by all parties of the provisions of arms limitation and disarmament agreements and maintaining or restoring the integrity of such agreements;

4. *Welcomes* the role that the United Nations has played in restoring the integrity of, and fostering negotiations on, certain arms limitation and disarmament agreements and in the removal of threats to peace;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide assistance that may be necessary in restoring and protecting the integrity of arms limitation and disarmament agreements;

6. *Encourages* efforts by States parties to develop additional cooperative measures, as appropriate, that can increase confidence in compliance with existing arms limitation and disarmament obligations and reduce the possibility of misinterpretation and misunderstanding;

7. *Notes* the contribution that verification experiments and research can make and already have made in confirming and improving verification procedures for arms limitation and disarmament agreements under study or negotiation, thereby providing an opportunity, from the time that such agreements enter into force, for enhancing confidence in the effectiveness of verification procedures as a basis for determining compliance;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its

fifty-second session the item entitled "Compliance with arms limitation and disarmament obligations".

90th plenary meeting
12 December 1995

50/61. Verification in all its aspects, including the role of the United Nations in the field of verification

The General Assembly,

Affirming its continued support for the sixteen principles of verification drawn up by the Disarmament Commission,[2]

Stressing that the critical importance of verification of and compliance with arms limitation and disarmament agreements is universally recognized and that the issue of verification is a matter of concern to all nations,

Recalling its resolution 48/68 of 16 December 1993, in which it requested the Secretary-General, as a further follow-up to the 1990 study on the role of the United Nations in the field of verification[3] and in view of significant developments in international relations since that study, to undertake, with the assistance of a group of qualified governmental experts, an in-depth study on verification issues identified in that resolution,

Also recalling that, in its resolution 48/68, it requested the Secretary-General to submit a report on the subject to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[4] which was unanimously approved by the Group of Governmental Experts on Verification in All Its Aspects, including the Role of the United Nations in the Field of Verification, and commends the report to the attention of Member States;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to give the report the widest possible circulation and to seek the views of Member States on the report;

3. *Encourages* Member States to consider the recommendations contained in the report and to assist the Secretary-General in their implementation where they consider it appropriate;

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session on the views received from Member States on the report and on actions taken by Member States and by the Secretariat with respect to the recommendations contained in the report;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-second session the item entitled "Verification in all its aspects, including the role of the United Nations in the field of verification".

90th plenary meeting
12 December 1995

50/62. The role of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament

The General Assembly,

Recognizing that scientific and technological developments can have both civilian and military applications and that progress in science and technology for civilian applications needs to be maintained and encouraged,

Stressing the interests of the international community in the subject and the need to follow closely the scientific and technological developments that may have a negative impact on the security environment and on the process of arms limitation and disarmament, and to channel scientific and technological developments for beneficial purposes,

Cognizant that the international transfer of high-technology products, services and know-how for peaceful purposes is important for the economic and social development of States,

Recalling that the Final Declaration of the Eleventh Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, from 18 to 20 October 1995, noted that restrictions being placed on access to technology through the imposition of non-transparent ad hoc export control regimes with exclusive membership tended to impede the economic and social development of developing countries,

Emphasizing that the internationally negotiated guidelines for the transfer of high technology with military applications should take into account the legitimate defence requirements of all States, while ensuring that access to high-technology products and services and know-how for peaceful purposes is not denied,

1. *Affirms* that scientific and technological achievements should be used for the benefit of all mankind to promote the sustainable economic and social development of all States and to safeguard international security, and that international cooperation in the use of science and technology through the transfer and exchange of technological know-how for peaceful purposes should be promoted;

2. *Invites* Member States to undertake additional efforts to apply science and technology for disarmament-related purposes and to make disarmament-related technologies available to interested States;

3. *Urges* Member States to undertake multilateral negotiations with the participation of all interested States in order to establish universally acceptable, non-discriminatory guidelines for international transfers of high technology with military applications;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to develop a database of concerned research institutions and experts with a view to promoting transparency and international cooperation in the applications of the scientific and technological developments for pursuing disarmament objectives such as disposal of weapons, conversion and verification, among others;

5. *Encourages* the United Nations to contribute, within existing mandates, to promoting the application of science and technology for peaceful purposes;

6. *Invites* all Member States to communicate to the Secretary-General their views and assessment;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session an item entitled "The role of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament".

90th plenary meeting
12 December 1995

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[2] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifteenth Special Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/S-15/3), para. 60 (para. 6, sect. I, of the quoted text).

[3] *The Role of the United Nations in the Field of Verification* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.91.IX.11).

[4] A/50/377 and Corr.1.

50/63. The role of science and technology in the context of international security, disarmament and other related fields

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions on the subject of the role of science and technology in the context of international security, disarmament and other related fields, in which, *inter alia*, it recognized that scientific and technological developments could have both civilian and military applications and that progress in science and technology for civilian applications needed to be maintained and encouraged,

1. *Invites* Member States to enhance bilateral and multilateral dialogue on the role of science and technology in the context of international security, disarmament and other related fields, with a view to:

(*a*) Ensuring implementation of relevant commitments already undertaken under international legal instruments;

(*b*) Exploring ways and means of further developing international legal rules on transfers of high technology with military applications;

2. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session the item entitled "The role of science and technology in the context of international security, disarmament and other related fields".

90th plenary meeting
12 December 1995

50/64. Amendment of the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and under Water

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 46/28 of 6 December 1991, in which it noted the convening of the Amendment Conference of the States Parties to the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and under Water from 7 to 18 January 1991, its resolution 48/69 of 16 December 1993, in which it noted the convening of a special meeting of the States parties to that Treaty on 10 August 1993, and its resolution 49/69 of 15 December 1994, in which it noted with satisfaction the commencement of multilateral negotiations for a comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty in the Conference on Disarmament on 1 February 1994,

Reiterating its conviction that a comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty is the highest-priority measure for the cessation of the nuclear-arms race and for the achievement of the objective of nuclear disarmament,

Recalling the central role of the United Nations in the field of nuclear disarmament and in particular in the cessation of all nuclear-test explosions, as well as the persistent efforts of non-governmental organizations in the achievement of a comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty,

Convinced that the Amendment Conference will facilitate the attainment of the objectives set forth in the Treaty and thus serve to strengthen it,

Recalling its recommendation that arrangements be made to ensure that intensive efforts continue, under the auspices of the Amendment Conference, until a comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty is achieved, and its call that all parties participate in, and contribute effectively to the success of, the Amendment Conference,

1. *Urges* all States that have not already done so to adhere to the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and under Water[5] at the earliest possible date;

2. *Urges* all States parties to the Treaty to contribute to the conclusion of a comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty as soon as possible and no later than 1996 and to its expeditious entry into force;

3. *Requests* the President of the Amendment Conference to conduct consultations to those ends;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session the item entitled "Amendment of the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and under Water".

90th plenary meeting
12 December 1995

50/65. Comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 48/70 of 16 December 1993 and 49/70 of 15 December 1994, in which the entire international community supported the multilateral negotiations on a comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty,

Reaffirming that a comprehensive nuclear-test ban is one of the highest-priority objectives of the international community in the field of disarmament and non-proliferation,

Convinced that the most effective way to achieve an end to nuclear testing is through the conclusion of a universal and internationally and effectively verifiable comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty that will attract the adherence of all States and will contribute to the prevention of the proliferation of nuclear weapons in all its aspects, to the process of nuclear disarmament and therefore to the enhancement of international peace and security,

Noting the aspirations expressed by the parties to the 1963 Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and under Water[5] to seek to achieve the discontinuance of all test explosions of nuclear weapons for all time, which are recalled in the preamble to the 1968 Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[6]

Welcoming the further elaboration of the rolling text in the Ad Hoc Committee on a Nuclear Test Ban of the Conference on Disarmament, as reflected in the report of the Conference and its appendix,[7] and the decision of the Conference to continue its work in inter-sessional meetings,

1. *Welcomes* the continuing efforts in the multilateral negotiations on a comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty in the Ad Hoc Committee on a Nuclear Test Ban of the Conference on Disarmament, the significant contributions to the rolling text made by States participating in those negotiations and progress in key areas;

2. *Calls upon* all States participating in the Conference on Disarmament, in particular the nuclear-weapon States, to conclude, as a task of the highest priority, a universal

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[5] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 480, No. 6964.

[6] Ibid., vol. 729, No. 10485.

[7] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/50/27), sect. III.A.

and multilaterally and effectively verifiable comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty which contributes to nuclear disarmament and the prevention of the proliferation of nuclear weapons in all its aspects, so as to enable its signature by the outset of the fifty-first session of the General Assembly;

3. *Also calls upon* participants in the Conference on Disarmament to advance work on the basis of the rolling text during the inter-sessional negotiating period so as to proceed to the final phase of the negotiations at the beginning of 1996;

4. *Further calls upon* the Conference on Disarmament to re-establish the Ad Hoc Committee at the commencement of its 1996 session, and to renew its mandate in order to complete the final text of the treaty as soon as possible in 1996;

5. *Urges* all States to support the multilateral negotiations in the Conference on Disarmament for a comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty and their prompt conclusion;

6. *Declares* its readiness to resume consideration of this item, as necessary, before its fifty-first session in order to endorse the text of a comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the provision to the Conference on Disarmament of adequate administrative, substantive and conference support services for these negotiations;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session an item entitled "Implementation of the comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty".

90th plenary meeting
12 December 1995

50/66. Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 3263 (XXIX) of 9 December 1974, 3474 (XXX) of 11 December 1975, 31/71 of 10 December 1976, 32/82 of 12 December 1977, 33/64 of 14 December 1978, 34/77 of 11 December 1979, 35/147 of 12 December 1980, 36/87 A and B of 9 December 1981, 37/75 of 9 December 1982, 38/64 of 15 December 1983, 39/54 of 12 December 1984, 40/82 of 12 December 1985, 41/48 of 3 December 1986, 42/28 of 30 November 1987, 43/65 of 7 December 1988, 44/108 of 15 December 1989, 45/52 of 4 December 1990, 46/30 of 6 December 1991, 47/48 of 9 December 1992, 48/71 of 16 December 1993 and 49/71 of 15 December 1994 on the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East,

Recalling also the recommendations for the establishment of such a zone in the Middle East consistent with paragraphs 60 to 63, and in particular paragraph 63 (*d*), of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[8]

Emphasizing the basic provisions of the above-mentioned resolutions, which call upon all parties directly concerned to consider taking the practical and urgent steps required for the implementation of the proposal to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East and, pending and during the establishment of such a zone, to declare solemnly that they will refrain, on a reciprocal basis, from producing, acquiring or in any other way possessing nuclear weapons and nuclear explosive devices and from permitting the stationing of nuclear weapons on their territory by any third party, to agree to place all their nuclear facilities under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards and to declare their support for the establishment of the zone and to deposit such declarations with the Security Council for consideration, as appropriate,

Reaffirming the inalienable right of all States to acquire and develop nuclear energy for peaceful purposes,

Emphasizing the need for appropriate measures on the question of the prohibition of military attacks on nuclear facilities,

Bearing in mind the consensus reached by the General Assembly at its thirty-fifth session that the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East would greatly enhance international peace and security,

Desirous of building on that consensus so that substantial progress can be made towards establishing a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East,

Welcoming all initiatives leading to general and complete disarmament, including in the region of the Middle East, and in particular on the establishment therein of a zone free of weapons of mass destruction, including nuclear weapons,

Noting the peace negotiations in the Middle East, which should be of a comprehensive nature and represent an appropriate framework for the peaceful settlement of contentious issues in the region,

Recognizing the importance of credible regional security, including the establishment of a mutually verifiable nuclear-weapon-free zone,

Emphasizing the essential role of the United Nations in the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East,

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 49/71,[9]

1. *Urges* all parties directly concerned to consider seriously taking the practical and urgent steps required for the implementation of the proposal to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and, as a means of promoting this objective, invites the countries concerned to adhere to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons;[6]

2. *Calls upon* all countries of the region that have not done so, pending the establishment of the zone, to agree to place all their nuclear activities under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards;

3. *Takes note* of resolution GC(39)/RES/24, adopted on 22 September 1995 by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency at its thirty-ninth regular session, concerning the application of Agency safeguards in the Middle East;

4. *Notes* the importance of the ongoing bilateral Middle East peace negotiations and the activities of the multilateral working group on arms control and regional security in promoting mutual confidence and security in the Middle East, including the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone;

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[8] Resolution S-10/2.

[9] A/50/325.

5. *Invites* all countries of the region, pending the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East, to declare their support for establishing such a zone, consistent with paragraph 63 (*d*) of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[8] and to deposit those declarations with the Security Council;

6. *Also invites* those countries, pending the establishment of the zone, not to develop, produce, test or otherwise acquire nuclear weapons or permit the stationing on their territories, or territories under their control, of nuclear weapons or nuclear explosive devices;

7. *Invites* the nuclear-weapon States and all other States to render their assistance in the establishment of the zone and at the same time to refrain from any action that runs counter to both the letter and the spirit of the present resolution;

8. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[9]

9. *Invites* all parties to consider the appropriate means that may contribute towards the goal of general and complete disarmament and the establishment of a zone free of weapons of mass destruction in the region of the Middle East;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to pursue consultations with the States of the region and other concerned States, in accordance with paragraph 7 of resolution 46/30 and taking into account the evolving situation in the region, and to seek from those States their views on the measures outlined in chapters III and IV of the study annexed to his report[10] or other relevant measures, in order to move towards the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East;

11. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session the item entitled "Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East".

90th plenary meeting
12 December 1995

50/67. Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in South Asia

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 3265 B (XXIX) of 9 December 1974, 3476 B (XXX) of 11 December 1975, 31/73 of 10 December 1976, 32/83 of 12 December 1977, 33/65 of 14 December 1978, 34/78 of 11 December 1979, 35/148 of 12 December 1980, 36/88 of 9 December 1981, 37/76 of 9 December 1982, 38/65 of 15 December 1983, 39/55 of 12 December 1984, 40/83 of 12 December 1985, 41/49 of 3 December 1986, 42/29 of 30 November 1987, 43/66 of 7 December 1988, 44/109 of 15 December 1989, 45/53 of 4 December 1990, 46/31 of 6 December 1991, 47/49 of 9 December 1992, 48/72 of 16 December 1993 and 49/72 of 15 December 1994 concerning the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in South Asia,

Reiterating its conviction that the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones in various regions of the world is one of the measures that can contribute effectively to the objectives of non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and general and complete disarmament,

Believing that the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in South Asia, as in other regions, will assist in the strengthening of the security of the States of the region against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

Taking note with appreciation of the declarations issued at the highest level by the Governments of South Asian States that are developing their peaceful nuclear programmes, reaffirming their undertaking not to acquire or manufacture nuclear weapons and to devote their nuclear programmes exclusively to the economic and social advancement of their peoples,

Welcoming the recent proposal for the conclusion of a bilateral or regional nuclear-test-ban agreement in South Asia,

Noting the proposal to convene, under the auspices of the United Nations, a conference on nuclear non-proliferation in South Asia as soon as possible, with the participation of the regional and other concerned States,

Noting also the proposal to hold consultations among five nations with a view to ensuring nuclear non-proliferation in the region,

Considering that the eventual participation of other States, as appropriate, in this process could be useful,

Bearing in mind the provisions of paragraphs 60 to 63 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly[8] regarding the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones, including in the region of South Asia,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[11]

1. *Reaffirms its endorsement*, in principle, of the concept of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in South Asia;

2. *Urges once again* the States of South Asia to continue to make all possible efforts to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in South Asia and to refrain, in the meantime, from any action contrary to that objective;

3. *Welcomes* the support of all the five nuclear-weapon States for this proposal, and calls upon them to extend the necessary cooperation in the efforts to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in South Asia;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to communicate with the States of the region and other concerned States in order to ascertain their views on the issue and to promote consultations among them with a view to exploring the best possibilities of furthering the efforts for the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in South Asia;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report on the subject to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session the item entitled "Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in South Asia".

90th plenary meeting
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[10] A/45/435.

[11] A/50/299.

50/68. Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the need to allay the legitimate concern of the States of the world with regard to ensuring lasting security for their peoples,

Convinced that nuclear weapons pose the greatest threat to mankind and to the survival of civilization,

Welcoming the progress achieved in recent years in both nuclear and conventional disarmament,

Noting that, despite recent progress in the field of nuclear disarmament, further efforts are necessary towards the achievement of the goal of general and complete disarmament under effective international control,

Also convinced that nuclear disarmament and the complete elimination of nuclear weapons are essential to remove the danger of nuclear war,

Determined strictly to abide by the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations on the non-use of force or threat of force,

Recognizing that the independence, territorial integrity and sovereignty of non-nuclear-weapon States need to be safeguarded against the use or threat of use of force, including the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

Considering that, until nuclear disarmament is achieved on a universal basis, it is imperative for the international community to develop effective measures and arrangements to ensure the security of non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons from any quarter,

Recognizing also that effective measures and arrangements to assure the non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons can contribute positively to the prevention of the spread of nuclear weapons,

Bearing in mind paragraph 59 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[8] the first special session devoted to disarmament, in which it urged the nuclear-weapon States to pursue efforts to conclude, as appropriate, effective arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, and desirous of promoting the implementation of the relevant provisions of the Final Document,

Recalling the relevant parts of the special report of the Committee on Disarmament,[12] submitted to the General Assembly at its twelfth special session,[13] the second special session devoted to disarmament, and of the special report of the Conference on Disarmament submitted to the Assembly at its fifteenth special session,[14] the third special session devoted to disarmament, as well as of the report of the Conference on its 1992 session,[15]

Recalling also paragraph 12 of the Declaration of the 1980s as the Second Disarmament Decade, contained in the annex to its resolution 35/46 of 3 December 1980, which states, *inter alia*, that all efforts should be exerted by the Committee on Disarmament urgently to negotiate with a view to reaching agreement on effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

Noting the in-depth negotiations undertaken in the Conference on Disarmament and its Ad Hoc Committee on Effective International Arrangements to Assure Non-Nuclear-Weapon States against the Use or Threat of Use of Nuclear Weapons,[16] with a view to reaching agreement on this item,

Taking note of the proposals submitted under that item in the Conference on Disarmament, including the drafts of an international convention,

Taking note also of the relevant decision of the Eleventh Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, from 18 to 20 October 1995, and also of the decision adopted by the Tenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Jakarta from 1 to 6 September 1992,[17] as well as the relevant recommendations of the Organization of the Islamic Conference reiterated in the Final Communiqué of the Twentieth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held at Istanbul from 4 to 8 August 1991,[18] calling upon the Conference on Disarmament to reach an urgent agreement on an international convention to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

Taking note further of the unilateral declarations made by all nuclear-weapon States on their policies of non-use or non-threat of use of nuclear weapons against non-nuclear-weapon States,

Noting the support expressed in the Conference on Disarmament and in the General Assembly for the elaboration of an international convention to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, as well as the difficulties pointed out in evolving a common approach acceptable to all,

Noting also the greater willingness to overcome the difficulties encountered in previous years,

Noting further Security Council resolution 984 (1995) of 11 April 1995 and the views expressed on it,

Recalling its relevant resolutions adopted in previous years, in particular resolutions 45/54 of 4 December 1990, 46/32 of 6 December 1991, 47/50 of 9 December 1992, 48/73 of 16 December 1993 and 49/73 of 15 December 1994,

1. *Reaffirms* the urgent need to reach an early agreement on effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons;

2. *Notes with satisfaction* that in the Conference on Disarmament there is no objection, in principle, to the idea of an international convention to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, although the difficulties as regards evolving a

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[12] The Committee on Disarmament was redesignated the Conference on Disarmament as from 7 February 1984.

[13] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twelfth Special Session, Supplement No. 2* (A/S-12/2), sect. III.C.

[14] Ibid., *Fifteenth Special Session, Supplement No. 2* (A/S-15/2), sect. III.F.

[15] Ibid., *Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/47/27), sect. III.F.

[16] Ibid., *Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/48/27), para. 39.

[17] See A/47/675-S/24816, annex, chap. II, para. 47; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-seventh Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1992*, document S/24816.

[18] See A/46/486-S/23055, annex I; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-sixth Year, Supplement for July, August and September 1991*, document S/23055.

common approach acceptable to all have also been pointed out;

3. *Appeals* to all States, especially the nuclear-weapon States, to work actively towards an early agreement on a common approach and, in particular, on a common formula that could be included in an international instrument of a legally binding character;

4. *Recommends* that further intensive efforts should be devoted to the search for such a common approach or common formula and that the various alternative approaches, including, in particular, those considered in the Conference on Disarmament, should be further explored in order to overcome the difficulties;

5. *Also recommends* that the Conference on Disarmament should actively continue intensive negotiations with a view to reaching early agreement and concluding effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, taking into account the widespread support for the conclusion of an international convention and giving consideration to any other proposals designed to secure the same objective;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session the item entitled "Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons".

90th plenary meeting
12 December 1995

50/69. Prevention of an arms race in outer space

The General Assembly,

Recognizing the common interest of all mankind in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes,

Reaffirming the will of all States that the exploration and use of outer space, including the Moon and other celestial bodies, shall be for peaceful purposes, shall be carried out for the benefit and in the interest of all countries, irrespective of their degree of economic or scientific development, and shall be the province of all mankind,

Reaffirming also provisions of articles III and IV of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies,[19]

Recalling the obligation of all States to observe the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations regarding the use or threat of use of force in their international relations, including in their space activities,

Reaffirming further paragraph 80 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[8] in which it is stated that in order to prevent an arms race in outer space further measures should be taken and appropriate international negotiations held in accordance with the spirit of the Treaty,

Recalling also its previous resolutions on this issue and taking note of the proposals submitted to the General Assembly at its tenth special session and at its regular sessions, and of the recommendations made to the competent organs of the United Nations and to the Conference on Disarmament,

Recognizing the grave danger for international peace and security of an arms race in outer space and of developments contributing to it,

Emphasizing the paramount importance of strict compliance with existing arms limitation and disarmament agreements relevant to outer space, including bilateral agreements, and with the existing legal regime concerning the use of outer space,

Considering that wide participation in the legal regime applicable to outer space could contribute to enhancing its effectiveness,

Noting that bilateral negotiations, begun in 1985 between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America, were conducted with the declared objective of working out effective agreements aimed, *inter alia*, at preventing an arms race in outer space,

Welcoming the re-establishment of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space at the 1994 session of the Conference on Disarmament, in the exercise of the negotiating responsibilities of this sole multilateral body on disarmament, to continue to examine and identify, through substantive and general consideration, issues relevant to the prevention of an arms race in outer space,

Noting that the Ad Hoc Committee on the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space, taking into account its previous efforts since its establishment in 1985 and seeking to enhance its functioning in qualitative terms, continued the examination and identification of various issues, existing agreements and existing proposals, as well as future initiatives relevant to the prevention of an arms race in outer space,[20] and that this contributed to a better understanding of a number of problems and to a clearer perception of the various positions,

Regretting the inability of the Conference on Disarmament to re-establish the Ad Hoc Committee on the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space in 1995,

Emphasizing the mutually complementary nature of bilateral and multilateral efforts in the field of preventing an arms race in outer space, and hoping that concrete results will emerge from those efforts as soon as possible,

Convinced that further measures should be examined in the search for effective and verifiable bilateral and multilateral agreements in order to prevent an arms race in outer space,

Stressing that the growing use of outer space increases the need for greater transparency and better information on the part of the international community,

Recalling in this context its previous resolutions, in particular resolutions 45/55 B of 4 December 1990, 47/51 of 9 December 1992 and 48/74 A of 16 December 1993, in which, *inter alia*, it reaffirmed the importance of confidence-building measures as means conducive to ensuring the attainment of the objective of the prevention of an arms race in outer space,

Conscious of the benefits of confidence- and security-building measures in the military field,

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[19] Resolution 2222 (XXI), annex.

[20] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-ninth Session*, Supplement No. 27 (A/49/27), sect. III.D (para. 5 of the quoted text).

Recognizing that there has been agreement in the Ad Hoc Committee that the conclusion of an international agreement or agreements to prevent an arms race in outer space remained the fundamental task of the Committee and that the concrete proposals on confidence-building measures could form an integral part of such agreements,

1. *Reaffirms* the importance and urgency of preventing an arms race in outer space and the readiness of all States to contribute to that common objective, in conformity with the provisions of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies;[19]

2. *Reaffirms its recognition*, as stated in the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space, that the legal regime applicable to outer space by itself does not guarantee the prevention of an arms race in outer space, that this legal regime plays a significant role in the prevention of an arms race in that environment, that there is a need to consolidate and reinforce that regime and enhance its effectiveness, and that it is important strictly to comply with existing agreements, both bilateral and multilateral;

3. *Emphasizes* the necessity of further measures with appropriate and effective provisions for verification to prevent an arms race in outer space;

4. *Calls upon* all States, in particular those with major space capabilities, to contribute actively to the objective of the peaceful use of outer space and of the prevention of an arms race in outer space and to refrain from actions contrary to that objective and to the relevant existing treaties in the interest of maintaining international peace and security and promoting international cooperation;

5. *Reiterates* that the Conference on Disarmament, as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum, has the primary role in the negotiation of a multilateral agreement or agreements, as appropriate, on the prevention of an arms race in outer space in all its aspects;

6. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament to re-establish the Ad Hoc Committee on the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space in 1996 and to consider the question of preventing an arms race in outer space;

7. *Also requests* the Conference on Disarmament to intensify its consideration of the question of the prevention of an arms race in outer space in all its aspects, building upon areas of convergence and taking into account relevant proposals and initiatives, including those presented in the Ad Hoc Committee at the 1994 session of the Conference and at the forty-ninth and fiftieth sessions of the General Assembly;

8. *Further requests* the Conference on Disarmament to re-establish an ad hoc committee with an adequate mandate at the beginning of its 1996 session and to continue building upon areas of convergence, taking into account the work undertaken since 1985, with a view to undertaking negotiations for the conclusion of an agreement or agreements, as appropriate, to prevent an arms race in outer space in all its aspects;

9. *Recognizes*, in this respect, the growing convergence of views on the elaboration of measures designed to strengthen transparency, confidence and security in the peaceful uses of outer space;

10. *Urges* the Russian Federation and the United States of America to resume their bilateral negotiations with a view to reaching early agreement for preventing an arms race in outer space and to advise the Conference on Disarmament periodically of the progress of their bilateral sessions so as to facilitate its work;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session the item entitled "Prevention of an arms race in outer space".

90th plenary meeting
12 December 1995

50/70. General and complete disarmament

A

NUCLEAR TESTING

The General Assembly,

Welcoming the easing of international tension and the strengthening of trust between States that have prevailed following the end of the cold war,

Reaffirming that the cessation of all nuclear testing will contribute to the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons in all its aspects, to the process of nuclear disarmament leading to the ultimate objective of the complete elimination of nuclear weapons and therefore to the further enhancement of international peace and security,

Convinced that the cessation of all nuclear testing will provide a favourable climate for the conclusion of negotiations on a comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty,

Considering that nuclear testing is not consistent with undertakings by the nuclear-weapon States at the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,

Deeply concerned about the potential negative effects of underground nuclear testing on health and the environment,

Sharing alarm expressed internationally, regionally and nationally at recent nuclear tests,

1. *Commends* those nuclear-weapon States observing nuclear testing moratoria, and urges them to continue those moratoria pending the entry into force of a comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty;

2. *Strongly deplores* all current nuclear testing;

3. *Strongly urges* the immediate cessation of all nuclear testing.

90th plenary meeting
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B

SMALL ARMS

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the role of the United Nations in the field of disarmament and the commitment of Member States to take concrete steps in order to strengthen that role,

Realizing the urgent need to resolve underlying conflicts, to diminish tensions and to accelerate efforts towards general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control with a view to maintaining regional and international peace and security in a world free from the scourge of war and the burden of armaments,

Reaffirming the inherent right to individual or collective self-defence recognized in Article 51 of the Charter of the

United Nations, which implies that States also have the right to acquire arms with which to defend themselves,

Reaffirming also the right of self-determination of all peoples, in particular peoples under colonial or other forms of alien domination or foreign occupation, and the importance of the effective realization of this right, as enunciated, *inter alia*, in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[21]

Realizing that arms obtained through the illicit arms trade are most likely to be used for violent purposes and that even small arms when so obtained, directly or indirectly, by terrorist groups, drug traffickers or underground organizations can pose a danger to regional and international security, and certainly to the security and political stability of the countries affected,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General to the Security Council entitled "Supplement to an Agenda for Peace",[22] which stressed the urgent need for "practical disarmament in the context of the conflicts the United Nations is actually dealing with and of the weapons, most of them light weapons, that are actually killing people in the hundreds of thousands",[23] and which identified light weapons as including, *inter alia*, small arms and anti-personnel land-mines,

Recalling its resolution 49/75 G of 15 December 1994, in which it welcomed the initiative taken by Mali concerning the question of the illicit circulation of small arms and their collection in the affected States of the Saharo-Sahelian subregion, as well as the action taken by the Secretary-General in implementation of this initiative,

Noting the work of the Disarmament Commission on international arms transfers,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General, within the existing resources, to prepare a report, with the assistance of a panel group of qualified governmental experts to be nominated by him on the basis of equitable geographical representation, on:

(*a*) The types of small arms and light weapons actually being used in conflicts being dealt with by the United Nations;

(*b*) The nature and causes of the excessive and destabilizing accumulation and transfer of small arms and light weapons, including their illicit production and trade;

(*c*) The ways and means to prevent and reduce the excessive and destabilizing accumulation and transfer of small arms and light weapons, in particular as they cause or exacerbate conflict;

with particular attention to the role of the United Nations in this field and to the complementary role of regional organizations, and taking into account views and proposals of Member States and all other relevant information, for submission to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session;

2. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to seek the views and proposals of Member States on the matters mentioned in paragraph 1 above, to collect all other relevant information and to make them available for consideration by the panel of governmental experts referred to in paragraph 1 above;

3. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-second session an item entitled "Small arms".

90th plenary meeting
12 December 1995

C

NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT WITH A VIEW TO THE ULTIMATE ELIMINATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 49/75 H of 15 December 1994,

Recognizing that the end of the cold war has increased the possibility of freeing the world from the fear of nuclear war,

Appreciating the entry into force of the Treaty on the Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms,[24] to which Belarus, Kazakstan, the Russian Federation, Ukraine and the United States of America are party, and looking forward to the early entry into force of the Treaty on Further Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms,[25]

Welcoming the reductions in the nuclear arsenals of other nuclear-weapon States,

Welcoming also the decision of the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons to extend the Treaty indefinitely,[26] taken without a vote, as well as the decisions on strengthening the review process for the Treaty[27] and on the principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament,[28]

Noting the reference in the decision on the principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament to the importance of the following measures for the full realization and effective implementation of article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[6] including the programme of action as reflected below:

(*a*) The completion by the Conference on Disarmament of the negotiations on a universal and internationally and effectively verifiable comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty no later than 1996, and the utmost restraint that should be exercised by the nuclear-weapon States pending the entry into force of that treaty;

(*b*) The immediate commencement and early conclusion of negotiations on a non-discriminatory and universally applicable convention banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices in accordance with the statement of the Special Coordinator of the Conference on Disarmament and the mandate contained therein;

(*c*) The determined pursuit by the nuclear-weapon States of systematic and progressive efforts to reduce nuclear weapons globally, with the ultimate goal of eliminating those weapons, and by all States of general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control,

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[21] *Report of the World Conference on Human Rights, Vienna, 14-25 June 1993* (A/CONF.157/24 (Part I)), chap. III.

[22] A/50/60-S/1995/1; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fiftieth Year, Supplement for January, February and March 1995*, document S/1995/1.

[23] Ibid., para. 60.

[24] *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook*, vol. 16: 1991 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.92.IX.1), appendix II.

[25] Ibid., vol. 18: 1993 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.IX.1), appendix II.

[26] *1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, Part I* (NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I)), annex, decision 3.

[27] Ibid., decision 1.

[28] Ibid., decision 2.

Welcoming positive developments as well as the efforts being made by the States members of the Conference on Disarmament in the negotiations on a comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty at the Conference on Disarmament at Geneva,

Recalling that nuclear non-proliferation and the promotion of nuclear disarmament are key elements in the maintenance of international peace and security, which is one of the most important purposes of the United Nations,

1. *Urges* States not parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[6] to accede to it at the earliest possible date, recognizing the importance of universal adherence to the Treaty;

2. *Calls* for the determined pursuit by the nuclear-weapon States of systematic and progressive efforts to reduce nuclear weapons globally, with the ultimate goal of eliminating those weapons, and by all States of general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control, and invites them to keep States Members of the United Nations duly informed of the progress and efforts made;

3. *Calls upon* all States to implement fully their commitments in the field of disarmament and non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

90th plenary meeting
12 December 1995

D

TRANSPARENCY IN ARMAMENTS

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 46/36 L of 9 December 1991, 47/52 L of 15 December 1992, 48/75 E of 16 December 1993 and 49/75 C of 15 December 1994,

Continuing to take the view that an enhanced level of transparency in armaments contributes greatly to confidence-building and security among States and that the establishment of the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms[29] constitutes an important step forward in the promotion of transparency in military matters,

Welcoming the consolidated report of the Secretary-General on the Register,[30] which includes the returns of Member States for 1994,

Welcoming also the response of Member States to the requests contained in paragraphs 9 and 10 of resolution 46/36 L to provide data on their imports and exports of arms, as well as available background information regarding their military holdings, procurement through national production and relevant policies,

Stressing that the continuing operation of the Register and its further development should be reviewed in order to secure a Register that is capable of attracting the widest possible participation,

1. *Reaffirms its determination* to ensure the effective operation of the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms[29] as provided for in paragraphs 7, 8, 9 and 10 of resolution 46/36 L;

2. *Calls upon* Member States to provide the requested data and information for the Register, on the basis of resolutions 46/36 L and 47/52 L and the annex and appendices to the report of the Secretary-General on the continuing operation of the Register and its further development,[31] to the Secretary-General by 30 April annually;

3. *Reaffirms* its decision, with a view to further development of the Register, to keep the scope of and participation in the Register under review, and, to that end:

(*a*) Recalls its request to Member States to provide the Secretary-General with their views on the continuing operation of the Register and its further development and on transparency measures related to weapons of mass destruction;

(*b*) Recalls its request to the Secretary-General, with the assistance of a group of governmental experts to be convened in 1997, on the basis of equitable geographical representation, to prepare a report on the continuing operation of the Register and its further development, taking into account the work of the Conference on Disarmament, the views expressed by Member States and the report of the Secretary-General on the continuing operation of the Register and its further development,[31] with a view to a decision at its fifty-second session;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that sufficient resources are made available for the Secretariat to operate and maintain the Register;

5. *Invites* the Conference on Disarmament to consider continuing its work undertaken in the field of transparency in armaments;

6. *Reiterates its call upon* all Member States to cooperate at the regional and subregional levels, taking fully into account the specific conditions prevailing in the region or subregion, with a view to enhancing and coordinating international efforts aimed at increased openness and transparency in armaments;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session on the progress made in implementing the present resolution;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session the item entitled "Transparency in armaments".

90th plenary meeting
12 December 1995

E

PROHIBITION OF THE DUMPING OF RADIOACTIVE WASTES

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind resolutions CM/Res.1153 (XLVIII) of 1988[32] and CM/Res.1225 (L) of 1989,[33] adopted by the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, concerning the dumping of nuclear and industrial wastes in Africa,

Welcoming resolution GC(XXXIV)/RES/530 establishing a Code of Practice on the International Transboundary Movement of Radioactive Waste, adopted on 21 September 1990 by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency at its thirty-fourth regular session,[34]

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[29] See resolution 46/36 L.

[30] A/50/547 and Corr.1 and Add.1.

[31] A/49/316.

[32] See A/43/398, annex I.

[33] See A/44/603, annex I.

Welcoming also resolution GC(XXXVIII)/RES/6, adopted on 23 September 1994 by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency at its thirty-eighth regular session,[35] inviting the Board of Governors and the Director General of the Agency to commence preparations for a convention on the safety of radioactive waste management,

Considering its resolution 2602 C (XXIV) of 16 December 1969, in which it requested the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament,[36] *inter alia*, to consider effective methods of control against the use of radiological methods of warfare,

Recalling resolution CM/Res.1356 (LIV) of 1991, adopted by the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity,[37] on the Bamako Convention on the Ban on the Import of Hazardous Wastes into Africa and on the Control of Their Transboundary Movements within Africa,

Aware of the potential hazards underlying any use of radioactive wastes that would constitute radiological warfare and its implications for regional and international security, in particular for the security of developing countries,

Recalling its resolutions 43/75 Q of 7 December 1988, 44/116 R of 15 December 1989, 45/58 K of 4 December 1990, 46/36 K of 6 December 1991, 47/52 D of 9 December 1992, 48/75 D of 16 December 1993 and 49/75 A of 15 December 1994,

Desirous of promoting the implementation of paragraph 76 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[8] the first special session devoted to disarmament,

1. *Takes note* of the part of the report of the Conference on Disarmament relating to a future convention on the prohibition of radiological weapons;[38]

2. *Expresses grave concern* regarding any use of nuclear wastes that would constitute radiological warfare and have grave implications for the national security of all States;

3. *Calls upon* all States to take appropriate measures with a view to preventing any dumping of nuclear or radioactive wastes that would infringe upon the sovereignty of States;

4. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament to take into account, in the negotiations for a convention on the prohibition of radiological weapons, radioactive wastes as part of the scope of such a convention;

5. *Also requests* the Conference on Disarmament to intensify efforts towards an early conclusion of such a convention and to include in its report to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session the progress recorded in the negotiations on this subject;

6. *Takes note* of resolution CM/Res.1356 (LIV) of 1991, adopted by the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, on the Bamako Convention on the Ban on the Import of Hazardous Wastes into Africa and on the Control of Their Transboundary Movements within Africa;

7. *Expresses the hope* that the effective implementation of the International Atomic Energy Agency Code of Practice on the International Transboundary Movement of Radioactive Waste will enhance the protection of all States from the dumping of radioactive wastes on their territories;

8. *Welcomes* current efforts of the International Atomic Energy Agency in the preparation of a draft convention on the safe management of radioactive waste;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session the item entitled "Prohibition of the dumping of radioactive wastes".

90th plenary meeting
12 December 1995

F

CONVENING OF THE FOURTH SPECIAL SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY DEVOTED TO DISARMAMENT

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 49/75 I of 15 December 1994,

Recalling also that three special sessions of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament were held in 1978, 1982 and 1988,

Bearing in mind the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[8] the first special session devoted to disarmament, and the final objective of general and complete disarmament under effective international control,

Welcoming the recent positive changes in the international landscape, characterized by the end of the cold war, the relaxation of tensions at the global level and the emergence of a new spirit governing relations among nations,

Taking note of paragraph 108 of the Final Declaration of the Eleventh Conference of Heads of State or Government of the Non-Aligned Countries, held at Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, from 18 to 20 October 1995, which supported the convening of the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament in 1997, which would offer an opportunity to review, from a perspective more in tune with the current international situation, the most critical aspects of the process of disarmament and to mobilize the international community and public opinion in favour of the elimination of weapons of mass destruction and of the control and reduction of conventional weapons,

Expecting that, since negotiations and action on important disarmament issues will be completed by the end of 1996, the year 1997 would be an opportune time to review the progress in the entire field of disarmament in the post-cold-war era,

1. *Decides* to convene its fourth special session on disarmament in 1997, if possible, the exact date and agenda to be decided upon before the end of the current session of the General Assembly through consultations;

2. *Also decides* to establish a Preparatory Committee to prepare a draft agenda for the special session, to examine all relevant questions relating to that session and to submit its recommendations thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session;

3. *Invites* all Member States to communicate to the Secretary-General, no later than 1 April 1996, their views

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[34] See International Atomic Energy Agency, *Resolutions and Other Decisions of the General Conference, Thirty-fourth Regular Session*, 17-21 September 1990 (GC(XXXIV)/RESOLUTIONS(1990)).

[35] Ibid., *Thirty-eighth Regular Session*, 19-23 September 1994 (GC(XXXVIII)/RES/DEC(1994)).

[36] The Conference of the Committee on Disarmament became the Committee on Disarmament as from the tenth special session of the General Assembly. The Committee on Disarmament was redesignated the Conference on Disarmament as from 7 February 1984.

[37] See A/46/390, annex I.

[38] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/50/27), sect. III.F.

on the draft agenda and other relevant questions relating to the fourth special session on disarmament;

4. *Requests* the Preparatory Committee to meet for a short organizational session before the end of the fifty-first session of the General Assembly in order, *inter alia*, to set the date for its substantive session;

5. *Also requests* the Preparatory Committee to submit its progress report to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session an item entitled "Convening of the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament: report of the Preparatory Committee for the Fourth Special Session of the General Assembly Devoted to Disarmament".

90th plenary meeting
12 December 1995

G

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN DISARMAMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

The General Assembly,

Recalling the provisions of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[8] the first special session devoted to disarmament, concerning the relationship between disarmament and development,

Recalling also the adoption on 11 September 1987 of the Final Document of the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development,[39]

Recalling further its resolution 49/75 J of 15 December 1994,

Bearing in mind the final documents of the Eleventh Conference of Heads of State or Government of the Non-Aligned Countries, held at Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, from 18 to 20 October 1995,

Stressing the growing importance of the symbiotic relationship between disarmament and development in current international relations,

1. *Takes note* of the note by the Secretary-General[40] and of actions taken in accordance with the Final Document of the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development;

2. *Urges* the international community to devote part of the resources made available by the implementation of disarmament and arms limitation agreements to economic and social development, with a view to reducing the ever-widening gap between developed and developing countries;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to take action, through appropriate organs and within available resources, for the implementation of the action programme adopted at the International Conference;[41]

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session the item entitled "Relationship between disarmament and development".

90th plenary meeting
12 December 1995

H

ASSISTANCE TO STATES FOR CURBING THE ILLICIT TRAFFIC IN SMALL ARMS AND COLLECTING THEM

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 46/36 H of 6 December 1991, 47/52 G and J of 9 December 1992, 48/75 H and J of 16 December 1993 and 49/75 G of 15 December 1994,

Considering that the circulation of massive quantities of small arms throughout the world impedes development and is a source of increased insecurity,

Considering also that the illicit international transfer of small arms and their accumulation in many countries constitute a threat to the populations and to national and regional security and are a factor contributing to the destabilization of States,

Basing itself on the statement of the Secretary-General relating to the request of Mali concerning United Nations assistance for the collection of small arms,

Gravely concerned at the extent of the insecurity and banditry linked to the illicit circulation of small arms in Mali and the other affected States of the Saharo-Sahelian subregion,

Taking note of the first conclusions of the United Nations advisory missions sent to the affected countries of the subregion by the Secretary-General to study the best way of curbing the illicit circulation of small arms and ensuring their collection,

Taking note also of the interest shown by other States of the subregion in receiving the United Nations Advisory Mission,

Noting the actions taken and those recommended at the meetings of the States of the subregion held at Banjul, Algiers and Bamako to establish close regional cooperation with a view to strengthening security,

1. *Welcomes* the initiative taken by Mali concerning the question of the illicit circulation of small arms and their collection in the affected States of the Saharo-Sahelian subregion;

2. *Also welcomes* the action taken by the Secretary-General in implementation of this initiative in the context of General Assembly resolution 40/151 H of 16 December 1985;

3. *Thanks* the Governments concerned in the subregion for the substantial support that they have given to the United Nations advisory missions and welcomes the declared readiness of other States to receive the United Nations Advisory Mission;

4. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts in the context of the implementation of resolution 49/75 G and of the recommendations of the United Nations advisory missions,[42] to curb the illicit circulation of small arms and to collect such arms in the affected States that so request, with the support of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa and in close cooperation with the Organization of African Unity;

5. *Invites* Member States to implement national control measures in order to check the illicit circulation of small arms, in particular by curbing the illegal export of such arms;

6. *Invites* the international community to give appro-

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[39] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.87.IX.8.

[40] A/50/388.

[41] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.87.IX.8, para. 35.

[42] See A/50/405.

priate support to the efforts made by the affected countries to suppress the illicit circulation of small arms, which is likely to hamper their development;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to examine the issue and to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session.

90th plenary meeting
12 December 1995

I

BILATERAL NUCLEAR-ARMS NEGOTIATIONS AND NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous relevant resolutions,

Recognizing the fundamental changes that have taken place with respect to international security, which have permitted agreements on deep reductions in the nuclear armaments of the States possessing the largest inventories of such weapons,

Mindful that it is the responsibility and obligation of all States to contribute to the process of the relaxation of international tension and to the strengthening of international peace and security,

Stressing the importance of strengthening international peace and security through general and complete disarmament, under strict and effective international control,

Stressing also that it is the responsibility of all States to adopt and implement measures towards the attainment of general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control,

Appreciating a number of positive developments in the field of nuclear disarmament, in particular the Treaty between the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on the Elimination of Their Intermediate-Range and Shorter-Range Missiles,[43] and the treaties on the reduction and limitation of strategic offensive arms,

Appreciating also the indefinite extension of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[6] and acknowledging the importance of the determined pursuit by the nuclear-weapon States of systematic and progressive efforts to reduce nuclear weapons globally, with the ultimate goal of eliminating those weapons, and by all States of general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control,

Welcoming the steps that have already been taken by the Russian Federation and the United States of America to begin the process of reducing the number of nuclear weapons and removing such weapons from a deployed status, and bilateral agreements on the issue of de-targeting strategic nuclear missiles,

Noting the new climate of relations between the United States of America and the States of the former Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, which permits them to intensify their cooperative efforts to ensure the safety, security and environmentally sound destruction of nuclear weapons,

Noting also that the Russian Federation and the United States of America concurred that, once the Treaty between them on Further Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms[25] was ratified, they would proceed to deactivate all nuclear delivery systems to be reduced under the Treaty by removing their nuclear warheads or taking other steps to remove them from alert status,

Noting further the commitment between the Russian Federation and the United States of America to intensify their dialogue to compare conceptual approaches and to develop concrete steps to adapt the nuclear forces and practices on both sides to the changed international security situation, including the possibility, after ratification of the Treaty on Further Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms, of further reductions of and limitations on remaining nuclear forces,

Taking note of the joint statement of 10 May 1995 by the Russian Federation and the United States of America on the Treaty on the Limitation of Anti-Ballistic Missile Systems,

Urging the early ratification of the Treaty on Further Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms and further intensification of such efforts to accelerate the implementation of agreements and unilateral decisions relating to nuclear-arms reduction,

Welcoming the significant reductions made by other nuclear-weapon States, and encouraging all nuclear-weapon States to consider appropriate measures relating to nuclear disarmament,

1. *Welcomes* the entry into force of the Treaty on the Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms,[24] signed in Moscow on 31 July 1991 by the former Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America, including the Protocol to that Treaty signed at Lisbon on 23 May 1992 by the parties thereto, and the exchange of documents of ratification between the United States of America, Belarus, Kazakstan, the Russian Federation and Ukraine on 5 December 1994 at Budapest;

2. *Also welcomes* the signing of the Treaty between the United States of America and the Russian Federation on Further Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms in Moscow on 3 January 1993,[25] and urges the parties to take the steps necessary to bring that Treaty into force at the earliest possible date;

3. *Expresses its satisfaction* at the fact that the entry into force of the 1991 Treaty on the Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms clears the way for prompt ratification by the Russian Federation and the United States of America of the 1993 Treaty;

4. *Also expresses its satisfaction* at the continuing implementation of the Treaty between the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on the Elimination of Their Intermediate-Range and Shorter-Range Missiles,[43] in particular at the completion by the parties of the destruction of all their declared missiles subject to elimination under the Treaty;

5. *Encourages* the United States of America, the Russian Federation, Belarus, Kazakstan and Ukraine to continue their cooperative efforts aimed at eliminating nuclear weapons and strategic offensive arms on the basis of existing agreements, and welcomes the contributions that other States are making to such cooperation as well;

6. *Welcomes* the accession to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[6] of Belarus, Kazakstan and Ukraine as non-nuclear-weapon States, which thereby provided a notable enhancement to the non-proliferation regime;

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[43] *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook*, vol. 12: 1987 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.88.IX.2), appendix VII.

7. *Encourages and supports* the Russian Federation and the United States of America in their efforts to reduce their nuclear weapons and to continue to give those efforts the highest priority in order to contribute to the ultimate goal of eliminating those weapons;

8. *Invites* the Russian Federation and the United States of America to keep other States Members of the United Nations duly informed of progress in their discussions and in the implementation of their strategic offensive arms agreements and unilateral decisions.

90th plenary meeting
12 December 1995

J

MEASURES TO CURB THE ILLICIT TRANSFER AND USE OF CONVENTIONAL ARMS

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 46/36 H of 6 December 1991 and its decision 47/419 of 9 December 1992 on international arms transfers,

Recalling also its resolutions 48/75 F and H of 16 December 1993 and 49/75 M of 15 December 1994 on measures to curb the illicit transfer and use of conventional arms,

Recognizing that the availability of massive quantities of conventional weapons and especially their illicit transfer, often associated with destabilizing activities, are most disturbing and dangerous phenomena, in particular for the internal situation of affected States and the violation of human rights,

Bearing in mind that in certain situations mercenaries, terrorists and child soldiers are supplied with weapons acquired from illicit transfers of conventional arms,

Convinced that peace and security are inextricably interlinked with and in some cases imperative for economic development and reconstruction, including in war-stricken countries,

Realizing the urgent need to resolve conflicts and to diminish tension, and to accelerate efforts towards general and complete disarmament with a view to maintaining regional and international peace and security,

Recognizing the curbing of the illicit transfer of arms as an important contribution to the relaxation of tension and peaceful reconciliation processes,

Stressing the need for effective national control measures on the transfer of conventional weapons,

Convinced that effective measures to curb the illicit transfer and use of conventional arms will help enhance regional and international peace, security and economic development,

1. *Invites* Member States:

(*a*) To take appropriate and effective enforcement measures to seek to ensure that illicit transfers of arms are immediately discontinued;

(*b*) To provide the Secretary-General promptly with relevant information on national control measures on arms transfers with a view to preventing illicit arms transfers;

2. *Requests* the Disarmament Commission:

(*a*) To expedite its consideration of the agenda item on international arms transfers, with special emphasis on the adverse consequences of the illicit transfer of arms and ammunition;

(*b*) To study and report on measures to curb the illicit transfer and use of conventional arms, bearing in mind concrete problems in various regions of the world;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(*a*) To seek the views of Member States on effective ways and means of collecting weapons transferred illicitly, in particular in the light of experience gained by the United Nations;

(*b*) To seek the views of Member States on concrete proposals concerning measures at the national, regional and international levels to curb the illicit transfer and use of conventional arms;

(*c*) To submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session a report containing the views expressed by Member States;

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session on the effective implementation of the present resolution;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session the item entitled "Measures to curb the illicit transfer and use of conventional arms".

90th plenary meeting
12 December 1995

K

REGIONAL DISARMAMENT

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 45/58 P of 4 December 1990, 46/36 I of 6 December 1991, 47/52 J of 9 December 1992, 48/75 I of 16 December 1993 and 49/75 N of 15 December 1994 on regional disarmament,

Believing that the efforts of the international community to move towards the ideal of general and complete disarmament are guided by the inherent human desire for genuine peace and security, the elimination of the danger of war and the release of economic, intellectual and other resources for peaceful pursuits,

Affirming the abiding commitment of all States to the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations in the conduct of their international relations,

Noting that essential guidelines for progress towards general and complete disarmament were adopted at the tenth special session of the General Assembly, the first special session devoted to disarmament,[8]

Taking note of the guidelines and recommendations for regional approaches to disarmament within the context of global security adopted by the Disarmament Commission at its 1993 substantive session,[44]

Welcoming the prospects of genuine progress in the field of disarmament engendered in recent years as a result of negotiations between the two super-Powers,

Taking note of the recent proposals for disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation at the regional and subregional levels,

Recognizing the importance of confidence-building measures for regional and international peace and security,

Convinced that endeavours by countries to promote regional disarmament, taking into account the specific characteristics of each region and in accordance with the principle of undiminished security at the lowest level of armaments, would enhance the security of smaller States and would thus contribute to international peace and security by reducing the risk of regional conflicts,

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[44] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 42* (A/48/42), annex II.

1. *Stresses* that sustained efforts are needed, within the framework of the Conference on Disarmament and under the umbrella of the United Nations, to make progress on the entire range of disarmament issues;

2. *Affirms* that global and regional approaches to disarmament complement each other and should therefore be pursued simultaneously to promote regional and international peace and security;

3. *Calls upon* States to conclude agreements, wherever possible, for nuclear non-proliferation, disarmament and confidence-building measures at the regional and subregional levels;

4. *Welcomes* the initiatives towards disarmament, nuclear non-proliferation and security undertaken by some countries at the regional and subregional levels;

5. *Supports and encourages* efforts aimed at promoting confidence-building measures at the regional and subregional levels in order to ease regional tensions and to further disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation measures at the regional and subregional levels;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session the item entitled "Regional disarmament".

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12 December 1995

L

CONVENTIONAL ARMS CONTROL AT THE REGIONAL AND SUBREGIONAL LEVELS

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 48/75 J of 16 December 1993 and 49/75 O of 15 December 1994,

Recognizing the crucial role of conventional arms control in promoting regional and international peace and security,

Convinced that conventional arms control needs to be pursued primarily in the regional and subregional contexts since most threats to peace and security in the post-cold-war era arise mainly among States located in the same region or subregion,

Aware that the preservation of a balance in the defence capabilities of States at the lowest level of armaments would contribute to peace and stability and should be a prime objective of conventional arms control,

Desirous of promoting agreements to strengthen regional peace and security at the lowest possible level of armaments and military forces,

Believing that militarily significant States, and States with larger military capabilities, have a special responsibility in promoting such agreements for regional security,

Believing also that two of the principal objectives of conventional arms control should be to prevent the possibility of military attack launched by surprise and to avoid aggression,

1. *Decides* to give urgent consideration to the issues involved in conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels;

2. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament, as a first step, to consider the formulation of principles that can serve as a framework for regional agreements on conventional arms control, and looks forward to a report of the Conference on this subject;

3. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session the item entitled "Conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels".

90th plenary meeting
12 December 1995

M

OBSERVANCE OF ENVIRONMENTAL NORMS IN THE DRAFTING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF AGREEMENTS ON DISARMAMENT AND ARMS CONTROL

The General Assembly,

Recognizing the importance of the observance of environmental norms in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms limitation,

Taking note of the relevant provisions of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction[45] regarding the environment,

Convinced of the importance of the environmentally sound implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction,[46]

Mindful of the detrimental environmental effects of the use of nuclear weapons,

Conscious of the positive potential implications for the environment of a future comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty,

Desirous of banning effectively military or any other hostile use of environment modification techniques, with a view to removing the dangers for mankind that might arise from such uses,

1. *Invites* the Conference on Disarmament to take every necessary measure to include in negotiating treaties and agreements on disarmament and arms limitation the corresponding environmental norms, with a view to ensuring that the process of implementation of such treaties and agreements is environmentally sound, in particular the destruction of weapons covered by them;

2. *Emphasizes* the importance of the compliance of all States parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction, and calls upon them to cooperate and ensure that the process of implementation of the Convention in all relevant aspects is environmentally sound;

3. *Urges* all States parties to consider all relevant norms related to the protection of the environment in implementing the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction;

4. *Calls upon* the Conference on Disarmament to con-

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[45] Ibid., *Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/47/27), appendix I.

[46] Resolution 2826 (XXVI), annex.

clude, as a task of the highest priority, a comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty as soon as possible in 1996;

5. *Urges* the States that are not yet party to the Convention on the Prohibition of Military or Any Other Hostile Use of Environmental Modification Techniques[47] to consider adhering to it as soon as possible, in order to assure the universality of the Convention.

90th plenary meeting
12 December 1995

N

BILATERAL NUCLEAR-ARMS NEGOTIATIONS AND NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous relevant resolutions,

Recognizing the fundamental changes that have taken place with respect to international security, which have permitted agreements on deep reductions in the nuclear armaments of the States possessing the largest inventories of such weapons,

Mindful that it is the responsibility and obligation of all States to contribute to the process of the relaxation of international tension and to the strengthening of international peace and security,

Stressing the importance of strengthening international peace and security through disarmament,

Emphasizing that nuclear disarmament remains one of the principal tasks of our times,

Appreciating a number of positive developments in the field of nuclear disarmament, in particular the Treaty between the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on the Elimination of Their Intermediate-Range and Shorter-Range Missiles, concluded on 8 December 1987,[43] and the treaties on the reduction and limitation of strategic offensive arms,

Noting that there are still significant nuclear arsenals and that the primary responsibility for nuclear disarmament, with the objective of the elimination of nuclear weapons, rests with the nuclear-weapon States, in particular those which possess the largest stockpiles,

Noting also the expressed determination of the nuclear-weapon States to pursue systematic and progressive efforts to reduce nuclear weapons globally, with the ultimate goal of eliminating those weapons within a time-bound framework,

Welcoming the steps that have already been taken by those States to begin the process of reducing the number of nuclear weapons and removing such weapons from a deployed status, and bilateral agreements on the issue of de-targeting strategic nuclear missiles,

Noting the new climate of relations between the United States of America and the States of the former Soviet Union, which permits them to intensify their cooperative efforts to ensure the safety, security and environmentally sound destruction of nuclear weapons,

Noting also that the Russian Federation and the United States of America concurred that, once the Treaty on Further Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms[25] was ratified, they would proceed to deactivate all nuclear delivery systems to be reduced under the Treaty by removing their nuclear warheads or taking other steps to remove them from alert status,

Noting further the agreement between the Russian Federation and the United States of America to intensify their dialogue to compare conceptual approaches and to develop concrete steps to adapt the nuclear forces and practices on both sides to the changed international security situation, including the possibility, after ratification of the Treaty on Further Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms, of further reductions of and limitations on remaining nuclear forces,

Taking note of the joint statement of 10 May 1995 by the Russian Federation and the United States of America on the Treaty on the Limitation of Anti-Ballistic Missile Systems,

Urging the early ratification of the Treaty on the Further Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms and further intensification of such efforts to accelerate the implementation of agreements and unilateral decisions relating to nuclear-arms reduction,

Welcoming the reduction made by other nuclear-weapon States in some of their nuclear-weapon programmes, and encouraging all nuclear-weapon States to consider appropriate measures relating to nuclear disarmament,

Affirming that bilateral and multilateral negotiations on nuclear disarmament should facilitate and complement each other,

1. *Welcomes* the entry into force of the Treaty on the Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms,[24] signed in Moscow on 31 July 1991 by the former Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America, including the Protocol to that Treaty signed at Lisbon on 23 May 1992 by the parties thereto, and the exchange of documents of ratification between the United States of America, Belarus, Kazakstan, the Russian Federation and Ukraine on 5 December 1994 at Budapest;

2. *Also welcomes* the signing of the Treaty between the United States of America and the Russian Federation on Further Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms in Moscow on 3 January 1993,[25] and urges the parties to take the steps necessary to bring that Treaty into force at the earliest possible date;

3. *Expresses its satisfaction* at the fact that the entry into force of the 1991 Treaty on the Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms clears the way to prompt ratification by the Russian Federation and the United States of America of the 1993 Treaty;

4. *Also expresses its satisfaction* at the continuing implementation of the Treaty between the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on the Elimination of Their Intermediate-Range and Shorter-Range Missiles,[43] in particular at the completion by the parties of the destruction of all their declared missiles subject to elimination under the Treaty;

5. *Encourages* the United States of America, the Russian Federation, Belarus, Kazakstan and Ukraine to continue their cooperative efforts aimed at eliminating nuclear weapons and strategic offensive arms on the basis of existing agreements, and welcomes the contributions that other States are making to such cooperation as well;

6. *Encourages and supports* the Russian Federation and the United States of America in their efforts to reduce their nuclear armaments and to continue to give those

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[47] Resolution 31/72, annex.

efforts the highest priority in order to contribute to the objective of the elimination of nuclear weapons within a time-bound framework;

7. *Invites* the Russian Federation and the United States of America to keep other States Members of the United Nations and the Conference on Disarmament duly informed of progress in their discussions and in the implementation of their strategic offensive arms agreements and unilateral decisions;

8. *Calls on* the Conference on Disarmament to take this information into account in the negotiations to be held on nuclear disarmament and for the ultimate elimination of nuclear weapons within a time-bound framework.

90th plenary meeting
12 December 1995

O

MORATORIUM ON THE EXPORT OF ANTI-PERSONNEL LAND-MINES

The General Assembly,

Recalling with satisfaction its resolutions 48/75 K of 16 December 1993 and 49/75 D of 15 December 1994, in which it, *inter alia*, called upon States to agree to a moratorium on the export of anti-personnel land-mines that pose grave dangers to civilian populations, and urged States to implement moratoria on the export of anti-personnel land-mines,

Also recalling with satisfaction its resolution 49/75 D, in which it, *inter alia*, established as a goal of the international community the eventual elimination of anti-personnel land-mines,

Noting that, according to the 1994 report of the Secretary-General entitled "Assistance in mine clearance",[48] it is estimated that there are more than one hundred and ten million land-mines in the ground in more than sixty countries throughout the world,

Noting also that, according to the same report, the global land-mine crisis continues to worsen as an estimated two to five million new land-mines are laid each year, while only an estimated one hundred thousand were cleared in 1994,

Expressing deep concern that anti-personnel land-mines kill or maim hundreds of people every week, mostly innocent and defenceless civilians, obstruct economic development and reconstruction, and have other severe consequences for years after emplacement, which include inhibiting the repatriation of refugees and the return of internally displaced persons,

Gravely concerned over the suffering and casualties caused to non-combatants as a result of the proliferation, as well as the indiscriminate and irresponsible use, of anti-personnel land-mines,

Recalling with satisfaction its resolutions 48/7 of 19 October 1993 and 49/215 A of 23 December 1994 calling for assistance in mine clearance,

Welcoming the programmes of assistance that exist for demining and humanitarian support for the victims of anti-personnel land-mines,

Welcoming also the International Meeting on Mine Clearance, held at Geneva from 5 to 7 July 1995, and noting the statement of the Secretary-General at the meeting that the international community must take specific and tangible steps to address the intolerable situation caused by the proliferation of anti-personnel land-mines throughout the world,

Recalling with satisfaction the report of the Secretary-General concerning progress on the initiative in resolution 49/75 D,[49]

Convinced that moratoria by States on the export of anti-personnel land-mines that pose grave dangers to civilian populations are important measures in helping to reduce substantially the human and economic costs resulting from the proliferation, as well as the indiscriminate and irresponsible use, of such devices,

Noting with satisfaction that more than twenty-five States already have declared moratoria on the export, transfer or sale of anti-personnel land-mines, with many of these moratoria being declared as a result of the aforementioned resolutions,

Believing that ongoing efforts to strengthen the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects,[50] in particular Protocol II thereto,[51] are an essential part of the overall effort to address problems caused by the proliferation, as well as the indiscriminate and irresponsible use, of anti-personnel land-mines,

Noting the efforts that were made at the Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention, held at Vienna from 25 September to 13 October 1995, to strengthen prohibitions and restrictions in Protocol II governing land-mine use and transfer, and urging parties to build consensus towards agreement on such prohibitions and restrictions when the Review Conference reconvenes in January and April 1996,

Believing also that, in addition to Protocol II, other measures to control the production, stockpiling and transfer of anti-personnel land-mines are also necessary to address problems caused by anti-personnel land-mines, especially the indiscriminate or illegal use of anti-personnel land-mines that continue to inflict harm on civilian populations long after emplacement,

Recognizing that States can move most effectively towards the goal of the eventual elimination of anti-personnel land-mines as viable alternatives are developed that significantly reduce the risk to the civilian population, and emphasizing the need for States to work on developing such alternatives on an urgent basis,

1. *Welcomes* the moratoria already declared by certain States on the export of anti-personnel land-mines;

2. *Urges* States that have not yet done so to declare such moratoria at the earliest possible date;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a report on steps taken by Member States to implement such moratoria, and to submit it to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament";

4. *Emphasizes* the importance of the Convention on

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[48] A/49/357 and Add.1 and 2.

[49] A/50/701.

[50] See *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook*, vol. 5: 1980 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.81.IX.4), appendix VII.

[51] Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby Traps and Other Devices (see *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook*, vol. 5: 1980 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.81.IX.4), appendix VII).

Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects and Protocol II thereto as the authoritative international instrument governing the responsible use of anti-personnel land-mines and related devices, and urges parties to build consensus towards an agreement when the Review Conference reconvenes;

5. *Encourages* the widest possible accession to the Convention and to Protocol II thereto, and further urges all States to comply immediately and fully with the applicable rules of Protocol II;

6. *Also encourages* further immediate international efforts to seek solutions to the problems caused by anti-personnel land-mines, with a view to the eventual elimination of anti-personnel land-mines.

90th plenary meeting
12 December 1995

P

NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the commitment of the international community to the goal of the total elimination of nuclear weapons and the creation of a nuclear-weapon-free world,

Determined to achieve the objective of prohibiting the development, production, stockpiling and use of nuclear weapons and their destruction, and to conclude such an international treaty or treaties at an early date,

Bearing in mind paragraph 50 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[8] the first special session devoted to disarmament, calling for the urgent negotiation of agreements for the cessation of the qualitative improvement and development of nuclear-weapon systems, and for a comprehensive and phased programme with agreed time-frames, wherever feasible, for progressive and balanced reduction of nuclear weapons and their means of delivery, leading to their ultimate and complete elimination at the earliest possible time,

Recognizing that a comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty, the proposed treaty on fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices and a convention prohibiting the use of nuclear weapons constitute important steps towards the elimination of the nuclear threat, and will contribute to the achievement of the goal of nuclear disarmament within a time-bound framework,

Recognizing also that the end of the cold war has brought about favourable conditions for creating a world free of nuclear weapons,

Welcoming the entry into force of the Treaty on the Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms,[24] to which Belarus, Kazakstan, the Russian Federation, Ukraine and the United States of America are States parties, as well as the conclusion of the Treaty on Further Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms[25] by the Russian Federation and the United States of America, and looking forward to full implementation of these treaties and to further concrete steps for nuclear disarmament by all nuclear-weapon States,

Noting with appreciation the unilateral measures of nuclear-weapon States for nuclear-arms limitation,

Recognizing the complementarity of bilateral and multilateral negotiations on nuclear disarmament and that bilateral negotiations can never replace multilateral negotiations in this respect,

Recognizing also that a comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty and the proposed treaty on fissile material for nuclear weapons or other explosive devices must both constitute disarmament measures and not only non-proliferation measures, and that they must be important steps leading to the total elimination of nuclear weapons within a time-bound framework,

Noting the support expressed in the Conference on Disarmament and in the General Assembly for the elaboration of an international convention to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, and the multilateral efforts in the Conference on Disarmament to reach agreement on such an international convention at an early date,

Recalling its resolution 49/75 E of 15 December 1994 on a step-by-step reduction of the nuclear threat,

Taking note of paragraph 84 and other relevant recommendations in the Final Document of the Eleventh Conference of Heads of State or Government of the Non-Aligned Countries, held at Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, from 18 to 20 October 1995, calling on the Conference on Disarmament to establish, on a priority basis, an ad hoc committee to commence negotiations early in 1996 on a phased programme of nuclear disarmament and for the eventual elimination of nuclear weapons within a time-bound framework,

1. *Recognizes* that, in view of the end of the cold war and recent political developments, the time is now opportune for all nuclear-weapon States to undertake effective nuclear disarmament measures with a view to the total elimination of these weapons within a time-bound framework;

2. *Also recognizes* that there is a genuine need to de-emphasize the role of nuclear weapons, and to review and revise nuclear doctrines accordingly;

3. *Urges* the nuclear-weapon States to stop immediately the qualitative improvement, development, stockpiling and production of nuclear warheads and their delivery systems;

4. *Calls upon* the nuclear-weapon States to undertake step-by-step reduction of the nuclear threat and a phased programme of progressive and balanced deep reductions of nuclear weapons, and to carry out effective nuclear disarmament measures with a view to the total elimination of these weapons within a time-bound framework;

5. *Calls upon* the Conference on Disarmament to establish, on a priority basis, an ad hoc committee on nuclear disarmament to commence negotiations early in 1996 on a phased programme of nuclear disarmament and for the eventual elimination of nuclear weapons within a time-bound framework;

6. *Expresses its support* for the efforts of the Member States of the Conference on Disarmament to this end;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session the item entitled "Nuclear disarmament".

90th plenary meeting
12 December 1995

Q

1995 REVIEW AND EXTENSION CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE TREATY ON THE NON-PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 47/52 A of 9 December 1992, in which it, *inter alia*, took note of the decision of the parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[6] following appropriate consultations, to form a preparatory committee for a conference to review the operation of the Treaty and to decide on its extension, as provided for in article VIII, paragraph 3, and also called for in article X, paragraph 2, of the Treaty,

Recalling also that the parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons convened in New York from 17 April to 12 May 1995 in accordance with article VIII, paragraph 3, and article X, paragraph 2, of the Treaty,

Noting that, at the time of the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, there were one hundred and seventy-five of the one hundred and seventy-eight States parties to the Treaty present,

1. *Notes* that on 11 May 1995 the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons adopted three decisions on strengthening the review process for the Treaty, principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament, and extension of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons;[52]

2. *Takes note* of the resolution on the Middle East adopted on 11 May 1995 by the parties to the Treaty;[53]

3. *Notes* that the States parties to the Treaty participating in the Review Conference:

(*a*) Agreed to strengthen the review process for the operation of the Treaty with a view to assuring that the purposes of the preamble and the provisions of the Treaty were being realized, and decided that, in accordance with article VIII, paragraph 3, the Review Conferences should continue to be held every five years, and that, accordingly, the next Review Conference should be held in the year 2000, and that the first meeting of the Preparatory Committee should be held in 1997;

(*b*) Affirmed the need to continue to move with determination towards the full realization and effective implementation of the provisions of the Treaty, and accordingly adopted a set of principles and objectives;

(*c*) Decided that, as a majority existed among States parties to the Treaty for its indefinite extension, in accordance with its article X, paragraph 2, the Treaty should continue in force indefinitely;

4. *Notes* that the three decisions and the resolution were adopted without a vote.

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[52] See *1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, Part I* (NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I)), para. 30.

[53] Ibid., para. 33.

R

CONTRIBUTION TO NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 49/75 H, L and P of 15 December 1994,

Noting with satisfaction a number of positive developments in the field of nuclear disarmament, in particular, the entry into force of the Treaty on the Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms,[24]

Noting also with satisfaction the conclusion of the Treaty on Further Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms,[25]

Realizing the vital importance of further nuclear disarmament with the ultimate goals of the complete elimination of nuclear weapons and a treaty on general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control,

Bearing in mind the results of the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[54]

Noting that the vast majority of States Members of the United Nations are now parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[6]

1. *Welcomes* the accession to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons of the following States: Algeria, Argentina, Chile, Comoros, Eritrea, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Palau, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates and Vanuatu;

2. *Also welcomes* the accession on 5 December 1994 to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons of Ukraine as a non-nuclear-weapon State, and in this regard acknowledges that this decision, as well as relevant decisions previously taken by Belarus and Kazakstan, contributed to the entry into force of the Treaty on the Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms,[24] which is a major landmark in the process of nuclear disarmament;

3. *Acknowledges* the progress in the process of implementation of the Treaty on the Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms to date by the parties to the Treaty;

4. *Welcomes* the signing of the Treaty on Further Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms[25] by the Russian Federation and the United States of America, and urges the parties to take the steps necessary to bring that Treaty into force at the earliest possible date;

5. *Also welcomes* the fact that South Africa has voluntarily given up its nuclear-weapon programme as well as the voluntary renunciation of nuclear weapons by Belarus, Kazakstan and Ukraine, and recognizes the significant contribution of those States to nuclear disarmament and the strengthening of regional and global security.

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12 December 1995

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[54] See *1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, Part I* (NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I)).

50/71. Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly

A

UNITED NATIONS DISARMAMENT FELLOWSHIP, TRAINING AND ADVISORY SERVICES

The General Assembly,

Recalling its decision, contained in paragraph 108 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[8] the first special session devoted to disarmament, to establish a programme of fellowships on disarmament, as well as its decisions contained in annex IV to the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly,[55] the second special session devoted to disarmament, in which it decided, *inter alia*, to continue the programme,

Noting with satisfaction that the programme has already trained an appreciable number of public officials selected from geographical regions represented in the United Nations system, most of whom are now in positions of responsibility in the field of disarmament affairs in their respective countries or Governments,

Recalling all the annual resolutions on the matter since the thirty-seventh session of the General Assembly, in 1982, including resolution 49/76 B of 15 December 1994,

Noting also with satisfaction that the programme, as designed, continues to enable an increased number of public officials, particularly from the developing countries, to acquire more expertise in the sphere of disarmament,

Believing that the forms of assistance available to Member States, particularly to developing countries, under the programme will enhance the capabilities of their officials to follow ongoing deliberations and negotiations on disarmament, both bilateral and multilateral,

1. *Reaffirms* its decisions contained in annex IV to the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly[55] and the report of the Secretary-General[56] approved by the Assembly in its resolution 33/71 E of 14 December 1978;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Governments of Germany and Japan for inviting the 1995 fellows to study selected activities in the field of disarmament, thereby contributing to the fulfilment of the overall objectives of the programme;

3. *Commends* the Secretary-General for the diligence with which the programme has continued to be carried out;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue the implementation of the Geneva-based programme within existing resources and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session the item entitled "United Nations disarmament fellowship, training and advisory services".

90th plenary meeting
12 December 1995

B

REGIONAL CONFIDENCE-BUILDING MEASURES

The General Assembly,

Recalling the purposes and principles of the United Nations and its primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,

Bearing in mind the guidelines for general and complete disarmament adopted at its tenth special session, the first special session devoted to disarmament,

Recalling its resolutions 43/78 H and 43/85 of 7 December 1988, 44/21 of 15 November 1989, 45/58 M of 4 December 1990, 46/37 B of 6 December 1991, 47/53 F of 15 December 1992, 48/76 A of 16 December 1993 and 49/76 C of 15 December 1994,

Considering the importance and effectiveness of confidence-building measures taken at the initiative and with the participation of all States concerned and taking into account the specific characteristics of each region, in that they can contribute to regional disarmament and to international security, in accordance with the principles of the Charter,

Convinced that the resources released by disarmament, including regional disarmament, can be devoted to economic and social development and to the protection of the environment for the benefit of all peoples, in particular those of the developing countries,

Bearing in mind the establishment by the Secretary-General on 28 May 1992 of the Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa, the purpose of which is to encourage arms limitation, disarmament, non-proliferation and development in the subregion,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on regional confidence-building measures,[57] which deals with the sixth and seventh meetings of the Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa, held at Brazzaville in March and August 1995;

2. *Reaffirms its support* for efforts aimed at promoting confidence-building measures at regional and subregional levels in order to ease tensions and conflicts in the subregion and to further disarmament, non-proliferation and the peaceful settlement of disputes in Central Africa;

3. *Also reaffirms its support* for the programme of work of the Standing Advisory Committee adopted at the organizational meeting of the Committee held at Yaoundé in July 1992;

4. *Takes note* of the Brazzaville Declaration on Cooperation for Peace and Security in Central Africa[58] and urges the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee to implement it promptly;

5. *Notes* the readiness of the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee to reduce the military forces, equipment and budgets in the subregion and to continue reviewing the studies carried out on the subject with a view to reaching agreements to that end;

6. *Welcomes* the initialling of the Non-Aggression Pact between the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee, which is likely to contribute to the prevention of con-

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[55] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twelfth Special Session, Annexes*, agenda items 9-13, document A/S-12/32.

[56] A/33/305.

[57] A/50/474.

[58] Ibid., annex I.

flicts and to confidence-building in the subregion, and encourages those States to sign the Pact as soon as possible;

7. *Welcomes with satisfaction* the decision by the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee to participate in peace operations of the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity and, to that end, to establish units specializing in peace operations within their respective armed forces;

8. *Also welcomes with satisfaction* the participation of some of the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee in the peace operations deployed in the subregion;

9. *Requests* Member States and governmental and non-governmental organizations to promote and to facilitate the holding of a training programme on peace operations in the subregion with a view to strengthening the capacity of the units specializing in peace operations in the armed forces of the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide assistance to the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee and to establish a trust fund to which Member States and governmental and non-governmental organizations may make additional voluntary contributions for the implementation of the programme of work of the Committee;

11. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session the item entitled "Regional confidence-building measures".

90th plenary meeting
12 December 1995

C

UNITED NATIONS REGIONAL CENTRE FOR PEACE AND DISARMAMENT IN AFRICA AND UNITED NATIONS REGIONAL CENTRE FOR PEACE, DISARMAMENT AND DEVELOPMENT IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 40/151 G of 16 December 1985, 41/60 D of 3 December 1986, 42/39 J of 30 November 1987 and 43/76 D of 7 December 1988 on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa, its resolutions 41/60 J of 3 December 1986, 42/39 K of 30 November 1987 and 43/76 H of 7 December 1988 on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, and its resolutions 45/59 E of 4 December 1990 and 46/37 F of 9 December 1991 on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa, the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific and the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean,

Reaffirming its resolutions 46/36 F of 6 December 1991 and 47/52 G of 9 December 1992 on regional disarmament, including confidence-building measures,

Recalling also its resolutions 48/76 E of 16 December 1993 and 49/76 D of 15 December 1994 on the regional disarmament centres,

Mindful of the provisions of Article 11, paragraph 1, of the Charter of the United Nations stipulating that a function of the General Assembly is to consider the general principles of cooperation in the maintenance of international peace and security, including the principles governing disarmament and arms limitation,

Bearing in mind that the changed international environment has created new opportunities for the pursuit of disarmament, as well as posed new challenges,

Convinced that the initiatives and activities mutually agreed upon by Member States of the respective regions aimed at fostering mutual confidence and security, as well as the implementation and coordination of regional activities under the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme, would encourage and facilitate the development of effective measures of confidence-building, arms limitation and disarmament in these regions,

Welcoming the programme of activities carried out by the regional centres, which have contributed substantially to understanding and cooperation among the States in each particular region and have thereby strengthened the role assigned to each regional centre in the areas of peace, disarmament and development,

Bearing in mind the importance of education for peace, disarmament and development for understanding and cooperation among States and for the promotion of international peace and security,

Recognizing with concern the financial situation of the regional centres as described in the 1994 report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the regional centres,[59]

Underlining, therefore, the need to provide the centres with financial viability and stability so as to facilitate the effective planning and implementation of their respective programmes of activities,

Expressing its gratitude to the Member States, international governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations that have, so far, contributed to the trust funds of the regional centres in Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean,

1. *Commends* the activities being carried out by the regional centres in identifying and broadening the understanding of pressing disarmament and security issues and exploring optimum solutions under given specific conditions prevailing in each region, in accordance with their mandates;

2. *Reaffirms its strong support* for the further operation and strengthening of the two regional centres and encourages them to continue intensifying their efforts in promoting cooperation with subregional and regional organizations and among the States in their respective regions to facilitate the development of effective measures of confidence-building, arms limitation and disarmament, with a view to promoting peace and security;

3. *Encourages* further use of the potential of the regional centres to maintain the increased interest in and momentum for revitalization of the Organization to meet the challenges of a new phase of international relations in order to fulfil the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations related to peace, disarmament and development, taking into account the guidelines and recommendations for regional approaches to disarmament within the context of global security as adopted by the Disarmament Commission at its 1993 substantive session;[44]

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[59] A/49/389.

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, to promote the development of activities within the programmes of the United Nations regional disarmament centres related to education for disarmament;

5. *Strongly appeals once again* to Member States, as well as to international governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations, to make more substantial voluntary contributions in order to revitalize the two centres, strengthen their programmes of activities and facilitate the effective implementation of those programmes;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in the light of the current financial situation of the two centres, to explore alternative financial resources and to continue to provide all necessary support to the regional centres in fulfilling their mandates;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the directors of the two regional centres are, as far as possible, locally based in order to revitalize the activities in the centres;

8. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session on his efforts to seek new alternative sources of financing for the two regional centres and on the implementation of the present resolution;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session the item entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa, United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific and United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean".

90th plenary meeting
12 December 1995

D

UNITED NATIONS REGIONAL CENTRE FOR PEACE AND DISARMAMENT IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 39/63 J of 12 December 1984, in which it requested the Secretary-General to provide assistance to such Member States in the regions concerned as might request it with a view to establishing regional and institutional arrangements for the implementation of the World Disarmament Campaign, on the basis of existing resources and of voluntary contributions that Member States might make to that end,

Recalling also its resolution 42/39 D of 30 November 1987, by which it established the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia, with headquarters at Kathmandu and with the mandate of providing, on request, substantive support for the initiatives and other activities mutually agreed upon by the Member States of the Asian region for the implementation of measures for peace and disarmament, through appropriate utilization of available resources,

Mindful of its resolution 44/117 F of 15 December 1989, in which it decided to rename the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia as the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific,

Commending the useful activities carried out by the Regional Centre in encouraging regional and subregional dialogue for the enhancement of openness, transparency and confidence-building, as well as the promotion of disarmament and security through the organization of regional meetings, which has come to be widely known within the Asia-Pacific region as the "Kathmandu process",

Noting that trends in the post-cold-war era have emphasized the function of the Regional Centre in assisting Member States as they deal with new security concerns and disarmament issues emerging in the region,

Noting also the efforts of the Member States to respond to these concerns and issues through the formulation of a common approach,

Appreciating highly the important role Nepal has played as the host nation of the headquarters of the Regional Centre,

Recognizing the need for the Regional Centre to pursue effectively its above-mentioned expanded function,

Expressing its appreciation to the Regional Centre for its organization of substantive regional meetings at Kathmandu and at Nagasaki and Kanazawa, Japan, in 1995,

1. *Commends* the important work carried out by the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific, with its headquarters at Kathmandu;

2. *Reaffirms its strong support* for the continued operation and further strengthening of the Regional Centre as an essential promoter of the regional peace and disarmament dialogue in the Asia-Pacific region known as the "Kathmandu process";

3. *Decides* that the Director of the Regional Centre at Kathmandu should operate as before until a reliable means can be found to finance the operational needs of the Regional Centre;

4. *Recommends* that the Regional Centre organize the scheduled regional meetings at Kathmandu, Hiroshima, Japan, and other cities in 1996, within the available resources voluntarily contributed by Member States and organizations for that purpose;

5. *Expresses its appreciation* for the contributions received by the Regional Centre;

6. *Appeals* to Member States, in particular those within the Asia-Pacific region, as well as to international governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations, to make voluntary contributions in order to strengthen the programme of activities of the Regional Centre and its implementation;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide all necessary support, within existing resources, to the Regional Centre in carrying out its programme of activities;

8. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session on the implementation of the present resolution;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session the item entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa, United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific and United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean".

90th plenary meeting
12 December 1995

E

CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION OF THE USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS

The General Assembly,

Convinced that the use of nuclear weapons poses the most serious threat to the survival of mankind,

Convinced also that a multilateral agreement prohibiting the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons would strengthen international security and contribute to the climate for negotiations leading to the ultimate elimination of nuclear weapons,

Conscious that some steps taken by the Russian Federation and the United States of America towards a reduction of their nuclear weapons and the improvement in the international climate can contribute towards the goal of complete elimination of nuclear weapons,

Recalling that, in paragraph 58 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[8] it is stated that all States should actively participate in efforts to bring about conditions in international relations among States in which a code of peaceful conduct of nations in international affairs could be agreed upon and that would preclude the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

Reaffirming that any use of nuclear weapons would be a violation of the Charter of the United Nations and a crime against humanity, as declared in its resolutions 1653 (XVI) of 24 November 1961, 33/71 B of 14 December 1978, 34/83 G of 11 December 1979, 35/152 D of 12 December 1980 and 36/92 I of 9 December 1981,

Stressing that an international convention would be an important step in a phased programme towards the complete elimination of nuclear weapons within a time-bound framework,

Noting with regret that the Conference on Disarmament, during its 1995 session, was unable to undertake negotiations on this subject,

1. *Reiterates its request* to the Conference on Disarmament to commence negotiations, in order to reach agreement on an international convention prohibiting the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons under any circumstances, taking as a possible basis the draft Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons annexed to the present resolution;

2. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament to report to the General Assembly on the results of those negotiations.

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ANNEX

Draft Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons

The States Parties to the present Convention,

Alarmed by the threat to the very survival of mankind posed by the existence of nuclear weapons,

Convinced that any use of nuclear weapons constitutes a violation of the Charter of the United Nations and a crime against humanity,

Convinced also that the present Convention would be an important step in a phased programme towards the complete elimination of nuclear weapons within a time-bound framework,

Determined to continue negotiations for the achievement of this goal,

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1

The States Parties to the present Convention solemnly undertake not to use or threaten to use nuclear weapons under any circumstances.

Article 2

The present Convention shall be of unlimited duration.

Article 3

1. The present Convention shall be open to all States for signature. Any State that does not sign the Convention before its entry into force in accordance with paragraph 3 of the present article may accede to it at any time.

2. The present Convention shall be subject to ratification by signatory States. Instruments of ratification or accession shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

3. The present Convention shall enter into force on the deposit of instruments of ratification by twenty-five Governments, including the Governments of the five nuclear-weapon States, in accordance with paragraph 2 of the present article.

4. For States whose instruments of ratification or accession are deposited after the entry into force of the Convention, it shall enter into force on the date of the deposit of their instruments of ratification or accession.

5. The depositary shall promptly inform all signatory and acceding States of the date of each signature, the date of deposit of each instrument of ratification or accession and the date of entry into force of the present Convention, as well as of the receipt of other notices.

6. The present Convention shall be registered by the depositary in accordance with Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations.

Article 4

The present Convention, of which the Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish texts are equally authentic, shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations, who shall send duly certified copies thereof to the Governments of the signatory and acceding States.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being duly authorized thereto by their respective Governments, have signed the present Convention, opened for signature at ___________ on the ___________ day of ___________ one thousand nine hundred and ___________.

50/72. Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session

A

REPORT OF THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Conference on Disarmament,[60]

Convinced that the Conference on Disarmament, as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum of the international community, has the primary role in substantive negotiations on priority questions of disarmament,

Noting with satisfaction the results achieved so far on the subject of a comprehensive test ban, as well as the commitment to complete the negotiations on the issue as soon as possible and not later than 1996,

1. *Reaffirms* the role of the Conference on Disarmament as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum of the international community;

2. *Welcomes* the determination of the Conference on Disarmament to fulfil that role in the light of the evolving

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[60] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/50/27).

international situation, with a view to making early substantive progress on priority items of its agenda;

3. *Urges* the Conference on Disarmament to continue as the highest-priority task its negotiations to conclude a comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty;

4. *Acknowledges* decision CD/1356 taken by the Conference on Disarmament on 21 September 1995[61] regarding its composition and the commitment to implement that decision at the earliest possible date;

5. *Encourages* the review of the agenda and methods of work of the Conference on Disarmament;

6. *Urges* the Conference on Disarmament to make every effort to reach a consensus on its programme of work at the beginning of its 1996 session;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure the provision to the Conference on Disarmament of adequate administrative, substantive and conference support services;

8. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament to submit a report on its work to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session the item entitled "Report of the Conference on Disarmament".

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B

DISARMAMENT WEEK

The General Assembly,

Noting the fundamental change that has been brought about by the end of the cold war and bipolar confrontation, and welcoming the important achievements of late in the areas of arms limitation and disarmament,

Noting with satisfaction that this year's observance of Disarmament Week coincides with the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations,

Stressing the increasing role and prestige of the United Nations as a focal point for coordinating and harmonizing the efforts of States,

Emphasizing anew the need for and the importance of world public opinion in support of disarmament efforts in all their aspects,

Noting with satisfaction the broad and active support by Governments and international and national organizations of the decision taken by the General Assembly at its tenth special session, the first special session devoted to disarmament, regarding the proclamation of the week starting 24 October, the day of the founding of the United Nations, as a week devoted to fostering the objectives of disarmament,[62]

Recalling the recommendations concerning the World Disarmament Campaign contained in annex V to the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly, the second special session devoted to disarmament, in particular the recommendation that Disarmament Week should continue to be widely observed,[63]

Noting the support for the further observance of Disarmament Week expressed by Member States at the fifteenth special session of the General Assembly, the third special session devoted to disarmament,

Recognizing the significance of the annual observance of Disarmament Week, including by the United Nations,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the observance of Disarmament Week;[64]

2. *Commends* all States, international and national governmental and non-governmental organizations for their active support for and participation in Disarmament Week;

3. *Invites* all States that so desire, in carrying out appropriate measures at the local level on the occasion of Disarmament Week, to take into account the elements of the model programme for Disarmament Week prepared by the Secretary-General;[65]

4. *Invites* Governments and international and national non-governmental organizations to continue to take an active part in Disarmament Week;

5. *Invites* the Secretary-General to continue to use the United Nations informational organs as widely as possible to promote better understanding among the world public of disarmament problems and the objectives of Disarmament Week;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Disarmament Week".

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C

EXPANSION OF THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Conference on Disarmament,[60] and in particular the part concerning expansion of the membership of the Conference,

Stressing the role of the Conference on Disarmament as the sole multilateral global negotiating body on disarmament,

Emphasizing the fact that, notwithstanding dramatic changes in the international situation and continuous consultations, there has been no expansion of the membership of the Conference during the last seventeen years,

Fully convinced that an enlarged membership is desirable in order to take advantage of the current propitious international climate to negotiate and conclude, on the solid basis of a more representative participation, a comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty and other important agreements requiring universal adherence,

Recognizing the legitimate aspirations of all candidate countries to participate fully in the work of the Conference on Disarmament, and recalling relevant decisions taken to review the composition of the Conference, including the agreement reached among Member States during the first special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament on a further expansion and on the wish to review the membership of the then Committee on Disarmament at regular intervals,

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[61] Ibid., para. 14.

[62] Resolution S-10/2, para. 102.

[63] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twelfth Special Session, Annexes*, agenda items 9-13, document A/S-12/32, annex V, para. 12.

[64] A/50/291.

[65] A/34/436.

Noting that the Conference on Disarmament, which is funded from the regular budget, was granted, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 48/77 B of 16 December 1993, supplementary administrative, substantive and conference support services, *inter alia*, in anticipation of its expansion,

Recalling in particular its resolution 49/77 B of 15 December 1994, adopted without a vote, urging the Conference on Disarmament to make every effort to reach a solution resulting, by the beginning of 1995, in a significant expansion of its composition, which would then include at least sixty countries,

Strongly regretting, nevertheless, that the decision of the Conference on Disarmament to adopt the report of the then Special Coordinator for Membership, and the recommended composition attached to it, taken at the end of the 1995 session did not result in the immediate expansion of its membership,

1. *Recalls* the report of 12 August 1993 of the Special Coordinator for Membership[66] designated by the Conference on Disarmament and the subsequent statement made by the Special Coordinator on 26 August 1993, recommending a dynamic solution to the question of membership;

2. *Recognizes* the legitimate aspirations of all countries that have applied for membership to participate fully in the work of the Conference on Disarmament;

3. *Acknowledges* decision CD/1356, taken at the 719th plenary meeting of the Conference on Disarmament on 21 September 1995,[61] including the commitment to implement the decision at the earliest possible date;

4. *Calls* for the implementation of decision CD/1356 on the expansion of membership of the Conference on Disarmament on an urgent basis;

5. *Strongly urges* that the new members should, in pursuance of decision CD/1356 and with particular reference to the provisions contained in the second paragraph of that decision, all assume together membership of the Conference at the start of the 1996 session of the Conference;

6. *Calls on* the Conference on Disarmament, in accordance with its decision CD/1356, to review the situation following the presentation of progress reports by the President of the Conference on ongoing consultations at the end of each part of its annual session;

7. *Urges* that, following the presentation of progress reports by the President of the Conference, the other candidatures to date be further considered by the Conference at its 1996 session.

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D

REPORT OF THE DISARMAMENT COMMISSION

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Disarmament Commission,[67]

Recalling its resolutions 47/54 A of 9 December 1992, 47/54 G of 8 April 1993, 48/77 A of 16 December 1993 and 49/77 A of 15 December 1994,

Considering the role that the Disarmament Commission has been called upon to play and the contribution that it should make in examining and submitting recommendations on various problems in the field of disarmament and in the promotion of the implementation of the relevant decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Disarmament Commission;[67]

2. *Notes with regret* that the Disarmament Commission was unable to achieve agreement on guidelines and recommendations under its agenda item entitled "Process of nuclear disarmament in the framework of international peace and security, with the objective of the elimination of nuclear weapons" and on recommendations under its agenda item entitled "Review of the Declaration of the 1990s as the Third Disarmament Decade", both of which were concluded in 1995;

3. *Notes* the progress made and continuing consideration by the Disarmament Commission of its agenda item entitled "International arms transfers, with particular reference to General Assembly resolution 46/36 H of 6 December 1991", which is to be concluded in 1996;

4. *Reaffirms* the importance of further enhancing the dialogue and cooperation among the First Committee, the Disarmament Commission and the Conference on Disarmament;

5. *Also reaffirms* the role of the Disarmament Commission as the specialized, deliberative body within the United Nations multilateral disarmament machinery that allows for in-depth deliberations on specific disarmament issues, leading to the submission of concrete recommendations on those issues;

6. *Encourages* the Disarmament Commission to continue to make every effort to enhance its working methods so as to enable it to give focused consideration to a limited number of priority issues in the field of disarmament, bearing in mind the decision it has taken to move its agenda towards a three-item phased approach;

7. *Requests* the Disarmament Commission to continue its work in accordance with its mandate, as set forth in paragraph 118 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[8] and with paragraph 3 of Assembly resolution 37/78 H of 9 December 1982, and to that end to make every effort to achieve specific recommendations on the items on its agenda, taking into account the adopted "Ways and means to enhance the functioning of the Disarmament Commission";[68]

8. *Recommends* that, pursuant to the adopted three-item phased approach, the Disarmament Commission, at its 1995 organizational session, adopt the following items for consideration at its 1996 substantive session:

(*a*) International arms transfers, with particular reference to General Assembly resolution 46/36 H of 6 December 1991;

(*b*) [to be added];[69]

(*c*) [to be added];[69]

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[66] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/48/27), para. 13 (incorporating document CD/1214).

[67] Ibid., *Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 42* (A/50/42).

[68] A/CN.10/137.

[69] The new item will be decided by the Disarmament Commission at its 1995 organizational session. [At its 203rd plenary meeting, on 24 April 1996, the Disarmament Commission adopted the agenda for its 1996 substantive session, including, as a second substantive item, the item entitled "Exchange of views on the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament". The Commission did not reach a consensus on a third substantive item.]

9. *Requests* the Disarmament Commission to meet for a period not exceeding four weeks during 1996 and to submit a substantive report to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit to the Disarmament Commission the annual report of the Conference on Disarmament,[60] together with all the official records of the fiftieth session of the General Assembly relating to disarmament matters, and to render all assistance that the Commission may require for implementing the present resolution;

11. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure full provision to the Commission and its subsidiary bodies of interpretation and translation facilities in the official languages and to assign, as a matter of priority, all the necessary resources and services, including verbatim records, to that end;

12. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a compilation, in the format of a note by the Secretary-General, of all texts of principles, guidelines or recommendations on subject items that have been unanimously adopted by the Disarmament Commission since its inception in 1978;

13. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session the item entitled "Report of the Disarmament Commission".

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50/73. The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the relevant United Nations resolutions,

Taking note of the relevant resolutions adopted by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency, the latest of which is GC(39)/RES/24, adopted on 22 September 1995, and noting the danger of nuclear proliferation, especially in areas of tension,

Cognizant that the proliferation of nuclear weapons in the region of the Middle East would pose a serious threat to international peace and security,

Aware of the importance that all nuclear facilities in the region be placed under full-scope safeguards of the International Atomic Energy Agency,

Recalling the resolution on the Middle East adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons on 11 May 1995,[70] in which the Conference noted with concern the continued existence in the Middle East of unsafeguarded nuclear facilities, reaffirmed the importance of the early realization of universal adherence to the Treaty and called upon all States in the Middle East that had not yet done so, without exception, to accede to the Treaty as soon as possible and to place all their nuclear facilities under full-scope International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards,

Recalling also the decision on principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons on 11 May 1995,[71] in which the Conference urged universal adherence to the Treaty as an urgent priority and called upon all States not yet party to the Treaty to accede to it at the earliest date, particularly those States that operate unsafeguarded nuclear facilities,

Encouraged by the recent positive developments in the Middle East peace process, which would be further strengthened by States of the region undertaking practical confidence-building measures in order to consolidate the non-proliferation regime,

1. *Welcomes* the accession of the United Arab Emirates on 26 September 1995 to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons;

2. *Calls upon* Israel and all other States of the region that are not yet party to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons not to develop, produce, test or otherwise acquire nuclear weapons, to renounce possession of nuclear weapons and to accede to the Treaty at the earliest date;

3. *Calls upon* the States of the region that have not yet done so to place all unsafeguarded nuclear facilities under full-scope International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards as an important confidence-building measure among all States of the region and as a step towards enhancing peace and security;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session on the implementation of the present resolution;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session the item entitled "The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East".

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50/74. Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 49/79 of 15 December 1994 and previous resolutions referring to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects,[50]

Recalling with satisfaction the adoption, on 10 October 1980, of the Convention, together with the Protocol on Non-Detectable Fragments (Protocol I),[50] the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby Traps and Other Devices (Protocol II)[51] and the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Incendiary Weapons (Protocol III),[50] which entered into force on 2 December 1983,

Recalling the commitment by the States that are parties to the Convention and the Protocols annexed thereto to respect the objectives and the provisions thereof,

Reaffirming its conviction that a general and verifiable agreement on prohibitions or restrictions on the use of certain conventional weapons would significantly reduce the suffering of civilians and combatants,

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[70] See *1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, Part I* (NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I)), annex.

[71] Ibid., decision 2.

Noting that, in conformity with article 8 of the Convention, conferences may be convened to examine amendments to the Convention or to any of the Protocols thereto, to examine additional protocols concerning other categories of conventional weapons not covered by the existing Protocols or to review the scope and application of the Convention and the Protocols annexed thereto and to examine any proposed amendments or additional protocols,

Noting with satisfaction that the group of governmental experts established to prepare a conference to review the Convention and the Protocols annexed thereto held four meetings and completed its work by submitting a final report,

Welcoming the fact that the Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects met at Vienna from 25 September to 13 October 1995, in accordance with article 8, paragraph 3, of the Convention, and that, in addition to the States parties, forty other States attended and took an active part in the Conference,

Particularly welcoming the adoption on 13 October 1995 of the Protocol on Blinding Laser Weapons (Protocol IV)[72] annexed to the Convention,

Noting that the Review Conference was not able to complete its work in reviewing the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby Traps and Other Devices (Protocol II), and the decision of the Conference therefore to continue its work,

Recalling the role played by the International Committee of the Red Cross in the elaboration of the Convention and the Protocols annexed thereto,

Noting with satisfaction the convening by the Secretary-General of the International Meeting on Mine Clearance at Geneva from 5 to 7 July 1995, and that substantial contributions to the Voluntary Trust Fund for Assistance in Mine Clearance were pledged at the Review Conference,

Welcoming the national measures adopted by Member States relating to the transfer, the production or the reduction of existing stockpiles of anti-personnel land-mines,

Desirous of reinforcing international cooperation in the area of prohibitions or restrictions on the use of certain conventional weapons, in particular for the removal of minefields, mines and booby traps,

Recalling in this respect its resolutions 48/7 of 19 October 1993 and 49/215 of 23 December 1994 on assistance in mine clearance,

1. *Registers its satisfaction* with the report of the Secretary-General;[73]

2. *Welcomes* the fact that additional States have ratified or accepted the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects, which was opened for signature in New York on 10 April 1981, or have acceded to the Convention;

3. *Urgently calls upon* all States that have not yet done so to take all measures to become parties, as soon as possible, to the Convention and its Protocols and upon successor States to take appropriate measures so that ultimately access to these instruments will be universal;

4. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General, in his capacity as depositary of the Convention and the Protocols annexed thereto, to continue to inform it periodically of accessions to the Convention and the Protocols;

5. *Takes note* of the interim report of the Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects, held at Vienna from 25 September to 13 October 1995;[74]

6. *Commends* the Protocol on Blinding Laser Weapons (Protocol IV)[72] to all States, with a view to achieving the widest possible adherence to this instrument at an early date;

7. *Calls upon* the States parties to intensify their efforts in order to conclude negotiations on a strengthened Protocol II;

8. *Also takes note* of the decision of the Review Conference to continue its work at resumed sessions at Geneva from 15 to 19 January and 22 April to 3 May 1996;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue furnishing needed assistance to the Review Conference;

10. *Again calls upon* the maximum number of States to attend the Review Conference;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session the item entitled "Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects".

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50/75. Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions on the subject, including resolution 49/81 of 15 December 1994,

Reaffirming the primary role of the Mediterranean countries in strengthening and promoting peace, security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region,

Bearing in mind all the previous declarations and commitments, as well as all the initiatives taken by the riparian countries at the recent summits, ministerial meetings and various forums concerning the question of the Mediterranean region,

Recognizing the efforts made so far and the determination of the Mediterranean countries to intensify the process of dialogue and consultations with a view to resolving the problems existing in the Mediterranean region and to eliminate the causes of tension and the consequent threat to peace and security,

Recognizing also the indivisible character of security in the Mediterranean and that the enhancement of cooperation among Mediterranean countries with a view to promoting the economic and social development of all peoples of the region will contribute significantly to stability, peace and security in the region,

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[72] CCW/CONF.I/7.

[73] A/50/326.

[74] CCW/CONF.I/8/Rev.1.

Recognizing further that prospects for closer Euro-Mediterranean cooperation in all spheres can be enhanced by positive developments worldwide, in particular in Europe, in the Maghreb and in the Middle East,

Noting with satisfaction the positive developments in the Middle East peace process that will lead to achieving a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the region and therefore to promoting confidence-building measures and a good-neighbourly spirit among the countries of the area,

Expressing satisfaction at the growing awareness of the need for more joint efforts by all Mediterranean countries so as to strengthen economic, social, cultural and environmental cooperation in the region,

Reaffirming the responsibility of all States to contribute to the stability and prosperity of the Mediterranean region and their commitment to respect the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, as well as the provisions of the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,[75]

Expressing its concern at the persistent tension and continuing military activities in parts of the Mediterranean that hinder efforts to strengthen security and cooperation in the region,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on this item,[76]

1. *Reaffirms* that security in the Mediterranean is closely linked to European security as well as to international peace and security;

2. *Expresses its satisfaction* at the continuing efforts by Mediterranean countries to contribute actively to the elimination of all causes of tension in the region and to the promotion of just and lasting solutions to the persistent problems of the region through peaceful means, thus ensuring the withdrawal of foreign forces of occupation and respecting the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of all countries of the Mediterranean and the right of peoples to self-determination, and therefore calls for full adherence to the principles of non-interference, non-intervention, non-use of force or threat of use of force and the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force, in accordance with the Charter and the relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

3. *Commends* the efforts by the Mediterranean countries in meeting common challenges through coordinated overall responses, based on a spirit of multilateral partnership, towards the general objective of turning the Mediterranean basin into an area of dialogue, exchanges and cooperation, guaranteeing peace, stability and prosperity;

4. *Recognizes* that the elimination of the economic and social disparities in levels of development as well as other obstacles in the Mediterranean area will contribute to enhancing peace, security and cooperation among Mediterranean countries through the existing forums;

5. *Calls upon* all States of the Mediterranean region that have not yet done so to adhere to all the multilaterally negotiated legal instruments related to the field of disarmament, thus creating the necessary conditions for strengthening peace and cooperation in the region;

6. *Encourages* all States of the region to favour the necessary conditions for strengthening the confidence-building measures among them by promoting genuine openness and transparency on all military matters, by participating, *inter alia*, in the United Nations system for the standardized reporting of military expenditures as well as by providing accurate data and information to the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms;

7. *Encourages* the Mediterranean countries to strengthen further their cooperation in combating terrorism, which poses a serious threat to peace, security and stability in the region and therefore to the improvement of the current political, economic and social situation;

8. *Invites* all States of the region to address, through various forms of cooperation, problems and threats posed to the region, such as terrorism, international crime and illicit arms transfers, as well as illicit drug production, consumption and trafficking, which jeopardize the friendly relations among States, hinder the development of international cooperation and result in the destruction of human rights, fundamental freedoms and the democratic basis of pluralistic society;

9. *Also encourages* the continued widespread support among the Mediterranean countries for the convening of a conference on security and cooperation in the Mediterranean, as well as the ongoing regional consultations to create the appropriate conditions for its convening;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on means to strengthen security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session the item entitled "Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region".

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50/76. Implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace, contained in its resolution 2832 (XXVI) of 16 December 1971, and recalling also its resolution 49/82 of 15 December 1994 and other relevant resolutions,

Recalling also the report of the Meeting of the Littoral and Hinterland States of the Indian Ocean held in July 1979,[77]

Having considered the conclusions and recommendations reached by the Ad Hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean during its session in 1995,[78]

Emphasizing the need to foster consensual approaches, in particular given the prevailing international climate, which is conducive to the pursuit of such endeavours,

Noting the initiatives taken by countries in the region to promote cooperation, in particular economic cooperation, in the Indian Ocean area and the possible contribution of such initiatives to overall objectives of a zone of peace,

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[75] Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

[76] A/50/300.

[77] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 45* and corrigendum (A/34/45 and Corr.1).

[78] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 29* (A/50/29).

Convinced that the participation of all the permanent members of the Security Council and the major maritime users of the Indian Ocean in the work of the Ad Hoc Committee is important and would assist the progress of mutually beneficial dialogue to develop conditions of peace, security and stability in the Indian Ocean region,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean;[78]

2. *Considers* that greater efforts and more time are required to develop a focused discussion on practical measures to ensure conditions of peace, security and stability in the Indian Ocean region;

3. *Reiterates its conviction* that the participation of all the permanent members of the Security Council and the major maritime users of the Indian Ocean in the work of the Ad Hoc Committee is important and would greatly facilitate development of a mutually beneficial dialogue to advance peace, security and stability in the Indian Ocean region;

4. *Requests* the Chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee to pursue his dialogue on the work of the Committee with the permanent members of the Security Council and major maritime users of the Indian Ocean and to apprise the Ad Hoc Committee of his consultations and other relevant developments at a meeting to be held in 1996 for that specific purpose, to take place before the 1997 regular session of the Committee;

5. *Requests* the Ad Hoc Committee to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session a report on the consultations held;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to render all necessary assistance to the Ad Hoc Committee, including the provision of summary records;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session the item entitled "Implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace".

90th plenary meeting
12 December 1995

50/77. Consolidation of the regime established by the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)

The General Assembly,

Recalling that in its resolution 1911 (XVIII) of 27 November 1963 it expressed the hope that the States of Latin America would take appropriate measures to conclude a treaty that would prohibit nuclear weapons in Latin America,

Recalling also that in the same resolution it voiced its confidence that, once such a treaty was concluded, all States, and in particular the nuclear-weapon States, would lend it their full cooperation for the effective realization of its peaceful aims,

Considering that in its resolution 2028 (XX) of 19 November 1965 it established the principle of an acceptable balance of mutual responsibilities and obligations between nuclear-weapon States and those which do not possess such weapons,

Recalling that the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)[79] was opened for signature at Mexico City on 14 February 1967,

Recalling also that in its preamble the Treaty of Tlatelolco states that military denuclearized zones are not an end in themselves but rather a means for achieving general and complete disarmament at a later stage,

Recalling further that in its resolution 2286 (XXII) of 5 December 1967 it welcomed with special satisfaction the Treaty of Tlatelolco as an event of historic significance in the efforts to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons and to promote international peace and security,

Recalling that in 1990, 1991 and 1992 the General Conference of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean approved and opened for signature a set of amendments to the Treaty of Tlatelolco,[80] with the aim of enabling the full entry into force of that instrument,

Bearing in mind that, with the full adherence in 1995 of Saint Lucia, the Treaty of Tlatelolco is in force for thirty sovereign States of the region,

Noting with satisfaction that the Government of Saint Kitts and Nevis ratified the Treaty of Tlatelolco on 18 April 1995,

Also noting with satisfaction that the Government of Cuba subscribed to the Treaty of Tlatelolco on 25 March 1995, thus contributing to a greater integration among the peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean for the attainment of the aims of the Treaty,

Further noting with satisfaction that the amended Treaty of Tlatelolco is fully in force for Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Jamaica, Mexico, Peru, Suriname and Uruguay,

1. *Welcomes* the concrete steps taken by several countries of the region during the past year for the consolidation of the regime of military denuclearization established by the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco);

2. *Notes with satisfaction* the full adherence of Saint Lucia to the Treaty of Tlatelolco;

3. *Urges* the countries of the region that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification of the amendments to the Treaty of Tlatelolco approved by the General Conference of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean in its resolutions 267 (E-V) of 3 July 1990, 268 (XII) of 10 May 1991 and 290 (VII) of 26 August 1992;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session the item entitled "Consolidation of the regime established by the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)".

90th plenary meeting
12 December 1995

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[79] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 634, No. 9068.
[80] A/47/467, annex.

50/78. Final text of the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (the Treaty of Pelindaba)

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa[81] adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its first ordinary session, held at Cairo from 17 to 21 July 1964, in which they solemnly declare their readiness to undertake, through an international agreement to be concluded under United Nations auspices, not to manufacture or acquire control of atomic weapons,

Recalling its resolution 2033 (XX) of 3 December 1965, in which it endorsed the above-mentioned Declaration and expressed the hope that the African States would initiate studies, as they deemed appropriate, with a view to implementing the denuclearization of Africa, and take the necessary measures, through the Organization of African Unity, to achieve that end,

Recalling also article VII of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[6] which acknowledges the right of any group of States to conclude regional treaties in order to ensure the total absence of nuclear weapons in their respective territories,

Bearing in mind paragraph 60 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[8] the first special session devoted to disarmament, which states that the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among the States of the region concerned constitutes an important disarmament measure,

Bearing in mind also the provisions of resolution CM/Res.1592 (LXII)/Rev.1[82] on the implementation of the Treaty declaring Africa a nuclear-weapon-free zone, adopted by the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity at its sixty-second ordinary session, held at Addis Ababa from 21 to 23 June 1995,

Noting the adoption by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its thirty-first ordinary session, held at Addis Ababa from 26 to 28 June 1995, of the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (the Treaty of Pelindaba),[83]

Noting also that the Treaty contains three Protocols open to the signature of States that, *de jure* or de facto, are internationally responsible for territories that lie within the limits of the geographical zone established in the Treaty of Pelindaba and to the signature of States possessing nuclear weapons, and convinced that the cooperation of such States is necessary for the greater effectiveness of the Treaty,

Recognizing that the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones contributes to the strengthening of the international non-proliferation regime,

Considering that the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones, especially in the Middle East, would enhance the security of Africa and the viability of the African nuclear-weapon-free zone,

1. *Welcomes with special satisfaction* the adoption by the African leaders of the final text of the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (the Treaty of Pelindaba),[83] which constitutes an event of historic significance in the efforts to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons and to promote international peace and security and which, at the same time, recognizes the right of African countries to use nuclear energy for peaceful purposes in order to accelerate the economic and social development of their peoples;

2. *Invites* the African States to sign and ratify the Treaty of Pelindaba as soon as possible;

3. *Calls upon* all States to respect the continent of Africa as a nuclear-weapon-free zone;

4. *Calls upon* the States contemplated in Protocol III to the Treaty of Pelindaba to take all necessary measures to ensure the speedy application of the Treaty to territories for which they are, *de jure* or de facto, internationally responsible and which lie within the limits of the geographical zone established in the Treaty;

5. *Calls upon* the nuclear-weapon States to bring the necessary support to the Treaty of Pelindaba by signing the Protocols that concern them as soon as the Treaty becomes available for signature;

6. *Expresses its profound gratitude* to the Secretary-General for the diligence with which he has rendered effective technical advice and financial assistance to the Organization of African Unity towards the six meetings of the Group of Experts to Prepare a Draft Treaty on an African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone, set up jointly by the Organization of African Unity and the United Nations;

7. *Also expresses its gratitude* to the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity and the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency for the diligence with which they assisted the Group of Experts to Prepare a Draft Treaty on an African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General, within existing resources, to extend assistance to the African States in 1996 in order to achieve the aims of the present resolution;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session an item entitled "African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty".

90th plenary meeting
12 December 1995

50/79. Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions relating to the complete and effective prohibition of bacteriological (biological) and toxin weapons and to their destruction,

Noting with satisfaction that there are more than one hundred and thirty States parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction, including all the permanent members of the Security Council,

Bearing in mind its call upon all States parties to the Convention to participate in the implementation of the recommendations of the Third Review Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction, including the exchange of information and data agreed to in the Final Declaration of the Third Review Conference,[84] and to provide such information and data in conformity with standardized procedure to the Secretary-General on an annual basis and no later than 15 April,

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[81] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twentieth Session, Annexes*, agenda item 105, document A/5975.

[82] A/50/647, annex I.

[83] See A/50/426.

Recalling its resolution 46/35 A, adopted without a vote on 6 December 1991, in which it welcomed, *inter alia*, the establishment, proceeding from the recommendations of the Third Review Conference,[85] of an ad hoc group of governmental experts open to all States parties to identify and examine potential verification measures from a scientific and technical standpoint,

Recalling also its resolution 48/65, adopted without a vote on 16 December 1993, in which it commended the final report of the Ad Hoc Group of Governmental Experts to Identify and Examine Potential Verification Measures from a Scientific and Technical Standpoint,[86] agreed to by consensus at the last meeting of the Ad Hoc Group at Geneva on 24 September 1993,

Recalling further its resolution 49/86, adopted without a vote on 15 December 1994, in which it welcomed the final report of the Special Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction, adopted by consensus on 30 September 1994,[87] in which the States parties agreed to establish an ad hoc group, open to all States parties, whose objective should be to consider appropriate measures, including possible verification measures, and draft proposals to strengthen the Convention, to be included, as appropriate, in a legally binding instrument to be submitted for the consideration of the States parties,

Recalling the provisions of the Convention related to scientific and technological cooperation and the related provisions of the Final Document of the Third Review Conference,[85] the final report of the Ad Hoc Group of Governmental Experts and the final report of the Special Conference of the States Parties to the Convention, held from 19 to 30 September 1994,

1. *Welcomes* the information and data provided to date, and reiterates its call upon all States parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction to participate in the exchange of information and data agreed to in the Final Declaration of the Third Review Conference of the Parties to the Convention;

2. *Also welcomes* the work begun by the Ad Hoc Group in pursuing the mandate established by the Special Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on 30 September 1994 and urges the Ad Hoc Group, in accordance with its mandate, to complete its work as soon as possible and submit its report, which shall be adopted by consensus, to the States parties to be considered at the Fourth Review Conference or later at a Special Conference;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to render the necessary assistance to the depository Governments of the Convention and to provide such services as may be required for the implementation of the decisions and recommendations of the Third Review Conference, as well as the decisions contained in the final report of the Special Conference, including all necessary assistance to the Ad Hoc Group;

4. *Notes* that, at the request of the States parties, a Fourth Review Conference of the Parties to the Convention will be held at Geneva from 25 November to 13 December 1996, that, following appropriate consultations, a Preparatory Committee for that Conference has been formed, open to all parties to the Convention, and that the Committee will meet at Geneva from 9 to 12 April 1996;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to render the necessary assistance and to provide such services as may be required for the Fourth Review Conference and its preparations;

6. *Calls upon* all signatory States that have not yet ratified the Convention to do so without delay, and also calls upon those States that have not signed the Convention to become parties thereto at an early date, thus contributing to the achievement of universal adherence to the Convention;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session the item entitled "Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction".

90th plenary meeting
12 December 1995

50/80. Maintenance of international security

A

PERMANENT NEUTRALITY OF TURKMENISTAN

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of the permanent neutrality of Turkmenistan,

Reaffirming the sovereign right of every State to determine independently its foreign policy in accordance with the norms and principles of international law and the Charter of the United Nations,

Welcoming the legislative confirmation by Turkmenistan of its status of permanent neutrality,

Welcoming also the desire of Turkmenistan to play an active and positive role in developing peaceful, friendly and mutually beneficial relations with the countries of the region and other States of the world,

Expressing the hope that the status of permanent neutrality of Turkmenistan will contribute to the strengthening of peace and security in the region,

Taking note of the support by the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and by the Economic Cooperation Organization of the status of permanent neutrality of Turkmenistan,

Recognizing that the adoption by Turkmenistan of the status of permanent neutrality does not affect the fulfilment of its obligations under the Charter and will contribute to the achievement of the purposes of the United Nations,

1. *Recognizes and supports* the status of permanent neutrality declared by Turkmenistan;

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[84] BWC/CONF.III/23, part II.

[85] See BWC/CONF.III/23.

[86] BWC/CONF.III/VEREX/9 and Corr.1.

[87] BWC/SPCONF/1.

2. *Calls upon* States Members of the United Nations to respect and support this status of Turkmenistan and also to respect its independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity.

90th plenary meeting
12 December 1995

B

DEVELOPMENT OF GOOD-NEIGHBOURLY RELATIONS AMONG BALKAN STATES

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970, the annex to which contains the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, and its resolutions 46/62 of 9 December 1991 and 48/84 B of 16 December 1993,

Affirming its determination that all nations should live together in peace with one another as good neighbours,

Emphasizing the urgency of the consolidation of the Balkans as a region of peace, security, stability and good-neighbourliness, thus contributing to the maintenance of international peace and security and so enhancing the prospects for sustained development and prosperity for all its peoples,

Noting the desire of the Balkan States to develop good-neighbourly relations among themselves and friendly relations with all nations in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,

Welcoming the present international efforts aimed at achieving an overall political settlement of the conflict in the former Yugoslavia,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the development of good-neighbourly relations among the Balkan States,[88]

Stressing the importance of the ongoing cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe,

Taking note of its deliberations on the subject at its present session,

1. *Notes with interest* the views of some States on the development of good-neighbourly relations among the Balkan States contained in the report of the Secretary-General;

2. *Urges* relevant international organizations and competent bodies and organizations of the United Nations system to submit to the Secretary-General their views on the subject;

3. *Calls upon* all Balkan States to endeavour to promote good-neighbourly relations and continually to undertake unilateral and joint activities, particularly confidence-building measures as appropriate, in particular within the framework of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe;

4. *Emphasizes* the importance for all Balkan States to promote mutual cooperation in all fields;

5. *Stresses* that closer engagement of Balkan States in cooperation arrangements on the European continent will favourably influence the political and economic situation in the region, as well as the good-neighbourly relations among all Balkan States;

6. *Urges* normalization of the relations among all States of the Balkan region;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to seek the views of the Member States, particularly those from the Balkan region, and of international organizations, as well as of competent organs of the United Nations, on the development of good-neighbourly relations in the region and on measures and preventive activities aimed at the creation of a stable zone of peace and cooperation in the Balkans by the year 2000, and to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session taking into account, *inter alia*, the views expressed by Member States;

8. *Decides* to consider the report of the Secretary-General on the subject at its fifty-second session.

90th plenary meeting
12 December 1995

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[88] A/50/412 and Add.1.

IV. RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED ON THE REPORTS OF THE SPECIAL POLITICAL AND DECOLONIZATION COMMITTEE (FOURTH COMMITTEE)[1]

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[1] For the decisions adopted on the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee), see sect. IX.B.3.

50/26. Effects of atomic radiation

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 913 (X) of 3 December 1955, by which it established the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation, and its subsequent resolutions on the subject, including resolution 49/32 of 9 December 1994, in which, *inter alia*, it requested the Scientific Committee to continue its work,

Taking note with appreciation of the report of the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation,[2]

Reaffirming the desirability of the Scientific Committee continuing its work,

Concerned about the potentially harmful effects on present and future generations resulting from the levels of radiation to which mankind and the environment are exposed,

Conscious of the continuing need to examine and compile information about atomic and ionizing radiation and to analyse its effects on mankind and the environment,

1. *Commends* the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation for the valuable contribution it has been making in the course of the past forty years, since its inception, to wider knowledge and understanding of the levels, effects and risks of atomic radiation and for fulfilling its original mandate with scientific authority and independence of judgement;

2. *Requests* the Scientific Committee to continue its work, including its important activities to increase knowledge of the levels, effects and risks of ionizing radiation from all sources;

3. *Endorses* the intentions and plans of the Scientific Committee for its future activities of scientific review and assessment on behalf of the General Assembly;

4. *Also requests* the Scientific Committee to continue at its next session the review of the important problems in the field of radiation and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session;

5. *Requests* the United Nations Environment Programme to continue providing support for the effective conduct of the work of the Scientific Committee and for the dissemination of its findings to the General Assembly, the scientific community and the public;

6. *Expresses its appreciation* for the assistance rendered to the Scientific Committee by Member States, the specialized agencies, the International Atomic Energy Agency and non-governmental organizations, and invites them to increase their cooperation in this field;

7. *Invites* Member States, the organizations of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations concerned to provide further relevant data about doses, effects and risks from various sources of radiation, which would greatly help in the preparation of future reports of the Scientific Committee to the General Assembly.

82nd plenary meeting
6 December 1995

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[2] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 46* (A/50/46).

50/27. International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 49/34 of 9 December 1994,

Deeply convinced of the common interest of mankind in promoting the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes and in continuing efforts to extend to all States the benefits derived therefrom, and also of the importance of international cooperation in this field, for which the United Nations should continue to provide a focal point,

Reaffirming the importance of international cooperation in developing the rule of law, including the relevant norms of space law and their important role in international cooperation for the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes,

Concerned about the possibility of an arms race in outer space,

Recognizing that all States, in particular those with major space capabilities, should contribute actively to the goal of preventing an arms race in outer space as an essential condition for the promotion of international cooperation in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes,

Considering that space debris is an issue of concern to all nations,

Noting the progress achieved in the further development of peaceful space exploration and application as well as in various national and cooperative space projects, which contribute to international cooperation, and the importance of further international cooperation in this field,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General[3] on the implementation of the recommendations of the Second United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space,[4]

Having considered the report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space on the work of its thirty-eighth session,[5]

1. *Endorses* the report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space;

2. *Invites* States that have not yet become parties to the international treaties governing the uses of outer space[6] to give consideration to ratifying or acceding to those treaties;

3. *Notes* that, at its thirty-fourth session, the Legal Subcommittee of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, in its working groups, continued its work as mandated by the General Assembly in its resolution 49/34;[7]

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[3] A/50/384.

[4] See *Report of the Second United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, Vienna, 9-21 August 1982*, and corrigenda (A/CONF.101/10 and Corr.1 and 2).

[5] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/50/20).

[6] Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies (resolution 2222 (XXI), annex); Agreement on the Rescue of Astronauts, the Return of Astronauts and the Return of Objects Launched into Outer Space (resolution 2345 (XXII), annex); Convention on International Liability for Damage Caused by Space Objects (resolution 2777 (XXVI), annex); Convention on Registration of Objects Launched into Outer Space (resolution 3235 (XXIX), annex); Agreement Governing the Activities of States on the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies (resolution 34/68, annex).

[7] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/50/20), sect. II.C.

4. *Endorses* the recommendations of the Committee that the Legal Subcommittee, at its thirty-fifth session, taking into account the concerns of all countries, particularly those of developing countries, should:

(*a*) Continue its consideration of the question of review and possible revision of the Principles Relevant to the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space;[8]

(*b*) Continue, through its working group, its consideration of matters relating to the definition and delimitation of outer space and to the character and utilization of the geostationary orbit, including consideration of ways and means to ensure the rational and equitable use of the geostationary orbit without prejudice to the role of the International Telecommunication Union;

(*c*) Continue, through its working group, its consideration of the legal aspects related to the application of the principle that the exploration and utilization of outer space should be carried out for the benefit and in the interests of all States, taking into particular account the needs of developing countries;

5. *Also endorses* the recommendation of the Committee that the Legal Subcommittee, at its thirty-fifth session, should suspend consideration in its working group of the Principles Relevant to the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space pending the results of the work in the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, without prejudice to the possibility of reconvening its working group on that item if in the opinion of the Legal Subcommittee sufficient progress was made in the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee at its session in 1996 to warrant the reconvening of the working group;

6. *Notes* that deliberations on the question of the geostationary orbit have been undertaken by the Legal Subcommittee as reflected in its report,[7] on the basis of recent proposals which might provide a new and enhanced basis for future work;

7. *Endorses* the recommendations and agreements concerning the organization of work in the Legal Subcommittee;

8. *Notes* that, in accordance with its recommendation, the Chairman of the Legal Subcommittee, at its thirty-fourth session, conducted extensive, open-ended informal consultations with all members of the Subcommittee on the working methods and agenda of the Legal Subcommittee, including the consideration of possible additional items for inclusion in the agenda as outlined in the report of the Committee,[9] and also notes that, in accordance with the recommendation of the Committee, a Working Group of the Whole was established at its thirty-eighth session to examine the working methods of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies, which took particular account of the results of the informal consultations of the Chairman of the Legal Subcommittee;

9. *Also endorses* the recommendations of the Committee as contained in the report of its thirty-eighth session with regard to its working methods and to the reconvening of the Working Group of the Whole at the thirty-ninth session of the Committee;[8]

10. *Notes* that, in accordance with the recommendation contained in General Assembly resolutions 48/222 B of 23 December 1993 and 49/221 B of 23 December 1994, the Committee reviewed its needs for written records;

11. *Further endorses* the recommendation of the Committee that, beginning with its thirty-ninth session, the Committee would be provided with unedited transcripts of its session in lieu of verbatim records, as described in the report of the Secretariat on this matter;[10]

12. *Requests* the Legal Subcommittee to review, at its thirty-fifth session, its requirement for summary records with a view to determining whether it may be possible to utilize unedited transcripts at its subsequent sessions and to consider under what circumstances there might be a need to revert to summary records should a decision be taken to utilize unedited transcripts;

13. *Notes* that the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, at its thirty-second session, continued its work as mandated by the General Assembly in its resolution 49/34;[11]

14. *Welcomes* the decision of the Committee to consider the matter of space debris as a matter of priority on the agenda of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee;

15. *Notes* that under that item the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee continued to consider scientific research relating to space debris, including relevant studies, mathematical modelling and other analytical work on the characterization of the space debris environment;

16. *Agrees* with the endorsement by the Committee of the multi-year plan for consideration of the agenda item on space debris adopted by the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee at its thirty-second session,[12] and also agrees that the work plan should be implemented with flexibility;

17. *Endorses* the recommendations of the Committee that the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, at its thirty-third session, taking into account the concerns of all countries, particularly those of developing countries, should:

(*a*) Consider the following items on a priority basis:

- (i) United Nations Programme on Space Applications and the coordination of space activities within the United Nations system;
- (ii) Implementation of the recommendations of the Second United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space;[4]
- (iii) Matters relating to remote sensing of the Earth by satellites, including, *inter alia*, applications for developing countries;
- (iv) Use of nuclear power sources in outer space;
- (v) Space debris;

(*b*) Consider the following items:

- (i) Questions relating to space transportation systems and their implications for future activities in space;
- (ii) Examination of the physical nature and technical attributes of the geostationary orbit and of its utilization and applications, including, *inter alia*, in the field of space communications, as well as other questions relating to space communications developments, taking particular account of the needs and interests of developing countries;

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[8] See resolution 47/68.

[9] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/50/20), sect. II.E.3.

[10] A/AC.105/L.207.

[11] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/50/20), sect. II.B.

[12] A/AC.105/605, para. 83.

(iii) Matters relating to life sciences, including space medicine;

(iv) Progress in national and international space activities related to the Earth's environment, in particular progress in the geosphere-biosphere (global change) programme;

(v) Matters relating to planetary exploration;

(vi) Matters relating to astronomy;

(vii) The theme fixed for special attention at the 1996 session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee: "Utilization of micro- and small satellites for the expansion of low-cost space activities, taking into account the special needs of developing countries"; the Committee on Space Research and the International Astronautical Federation, in liaison with Member States, should be invited to arrange a symposium, with as wide a participation as possible, to be held during the first week of the Subcommittee's session, to complement discussions within the Subcommittee on the special theme;

18. *Considers*, in the context of paragraph 17 (*a*) (ii) above, that it is particularly urgent to implement the following recommendations:

(*a*) All countries should have the opportunity to use the techniques resulting from medical studies in space;

(*b*) Data banks at the national and regional levels should be strengthened and expanded and an international space information service should be established to function as a centre of coordination;

(*c*) The United Nations should support the creation of adequate training centres at the regional level, linked, whenever possible, to institutions implementing space programmes; necessary funding for the development of such centres should be made available through financial institutions;

(*d*) The United Nations should organize a fellowship programme through which selected graduates or postgraduates from developing countries should get in-depth, long-term exposure to space technology or applications; it is also desirable to encourage the availability of opportunities for such exposure on other bilateral or multilateral bases outside the United Nations system;

19. *Endorses* the recommendation of the Committee that the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee should reconvene, at its thirty-third session, the Working Group of the Whole to Evaluate the Implementation of the Recommendations of the Second United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, to continue its work;

20. *Also endorses* the recommendations of the Working Group of the Whole of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, as endorsed by the Committee and as contained in the report of the Working Group of the Whole;[13]

21. *Decides* that, during the thirty-third session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, the Working Group on the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space should be reconvened, and invites Member States to report to the Secretary-General on a regular basis with regard to national and international research concerning the safety of nuclear-powered satellites;

22. *Endorses* the United Nations Programme on Space Applications for 1996, as proposed to the Committee by the Expert on Space Applications;[14]

23. *Emphasizes* the urgency and importance of implementing fully the recommendations of the Second United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space;

24. *Reaffirms its approval* of the recommendation of the Conference regarding the establishment and strengthening of regional mechanisms of cooperation and their promotion and creation through the United Nations system;

25. *Expresses its appreciation* to all Governments that have made, or expressed their intention to make, contributions towards carrying out the recommendations of the Conference;

26. *Invites* all Governments to take effective action for the implementation of the recommendations of the Conference;

27. *Requests* all organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental organizations working in the field of outer space or on space-related matters to cooperate in the implementation of the recommendations of the Conference;

28. *Invites* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session on the implementation of the recommendations of the Conference;

29. *Notes with satisfaction* that, in the context of paragraph 18 (*c*) above, significant progress has been achieved in establishing regional centres for space science and technology education in each region covered by the regional commissions;

30. *Endorses* the recommendation of the Committee that these centres be established on the basis of affiliation to the United Nations as early as possible and that such affiliation would provide the centres with the necessary recognition and would strengthen the possibilities of attracting donors and of establishing academic relationships with national and international space-related institutions;

31. *Notes* that, pursuant to its request in paragraph 27 of resolution 49/34, the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, at its thirty-second session, continued its discussions on the possibility of holding a third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and that the Committee continued these discussions at its thirty-eighth session with a view to promoting an early conclusion on the matter by the Committee;

32. *Agrees* that a third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space could be convened before the turn of the present century, and that, prior to recommending a date for the conference, there should be a consensus recommendation on the agenda, venue and funding of the conference;

33. *Recommends* that the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, at its thirty-third session, continue the work it had conducted at its thirty-second session, taking into particular account the report of its Working Group of the Whole,[13] with the aim being to complete the development and refinement of a framework that would allow an evaluation of proposals by the Committee at its thirty-ninth session, and that this framework should allow for the consideration of all possibilities of achieving the final objectives of such a conference;

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[13] A/AC.105/605, annex II.

[14] A/AC.105/595, sect. I.

34. *Also agrees* that, on the basis of the work to be conducted at the thirty-third session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, the Committee, at its thirty-ninth session, should consider all issues related to the possible convening of a third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, including its technical and political objectives, a detailed and sharply focused agenda, funding, timing and other organizational aspects as well as whether the objectives of the conference could be achieved by other means, with a view to making a final recommendation to the General Assembly at that session of the Committee;

35. *Notes with interest* the plans of the Government of Uruguay to host the Third Space Conference of the Americas at Punta del Este in 1996;

36. *Recommends* that more attention be paid to all aspects related to the protection and the preservation of the outer space environment, especially those potentially affecting the Earth's environment;

37. *Considers* that it is essential that Member States pay more attention to the problem of collisions of space objects, including nuclear power sources, with space debris, and other aspects of space debris, calls for the continuation of national research on this question, for the development of improved technology for the monitoring of space debris and for the compilation and dissemination of data on space debris, and also considers that, to the extent possible, information thereon should be provided to the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee;

38. *Urges* all States, in particular those with major space capabilities, to contribute actively to the goal of preventing an arms race in outer space as an essential condition for the promotion of international cooperation in the exploration and uses of outer space for peaceful purposes;

39. *Emphasizes* the need to increase the benefits of space technology and its applications and to contribute to an orderly growth of space activities favourable to the socio-economic advancement of humanity, in particular that of the people of the developing countries;

40. *Takes note* of the views expressed during the thirty-eighth session of the Committee and during the fiftieth session of the General Assembly concerning ways and means of maintaining outer space for peaceful purposes;

41. *Requests* the Committee to continue to consider, as a matter of priority, ways and means of maintaining outer space for peaceful purposes and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session;

42. *Also requests* the Committee to continue to consider at its thirty-ninth session its agenda item entitled "Spin-off benefits of space technology: review of current status";

43. *Requests* the specialized agencies and other international organizations to continue and, where appropriate, enhance their cooperation with the Committee and to provide it with progress reports on their work relating to the peaceful uses of outer space;

44. *Further requests* the Committee to continue its work, in accordance with the present resolution, to consider, as appropriate, new projects in outer space activities and to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session, including its views on which subjects should be studied in the future.

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6 December 1995

50/28. United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East

A

ASSISTANCE TO PALESTINE REFUGEES

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 49/35 A of 9 December 1994 and all its previous resolutions on the question, including resolution 194 (III) of 11 December 1948,

Taking note of the report of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East covering the period from 1 July 1994 to 30 June 1995,[15]

Welcoming the signature by the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements in Washington on 13 September 1993,[16]

Welcoming also the signature by the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization of the Interim Agreement on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip in Washington on 28 September 1995,

Commending the work of the Multilateral Working Group on Refugees of the Middle East peace process,

1. *Notes with regret* that repatriation or compensation of the refugees, as provided for in paragraph 11 of its resolution 194 (III), has not yet been effected and that, therefore, the situation of the refugees continues to be a matter of concern;

2. *Expresses its thanks* to the Commissioner-General and to all the staff of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, recognizing that the Agency is doing all it can within the limits of available resources, and also expresses its thanks to the specialized agencies and to private organizations for their valuable work in assisting refugees;

3. *Also notes with regret* that the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine has been unable to find a means of achieving progress in the implementation of paragraph 11 of resolution 194 (III),[17] and requests the Commission to exert continued efforts towards the implementation of that paragraph and to report to the General Assembly as appropriate, but not later than 1 September 1996;

4. *Notes* the significant success of the peace implementation programme of the Agency since the signing of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements;

5. *Urges* all Member States to extend and expedite aid and assistance with a view to the economic and social development of the Palestinian people and the occupied territories;

6. *Also notes* the progress achieved to date in the transfer of the Agency's headquarters to its area of operations, and requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Commissioner-General, to present to the Working Group on the Financing of the United Nations Relief and

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[15] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 13* and addendum and corrigendum (A/50/13 and Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1).

[16] A/48/486-S/26560, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-eighth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1993*, document S/26560.

[17] See A/50/500, annex.

Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East an updated plan for the transfer;

7. *Reiterates its concern* about the continuing seriousness of the financial position of the Agency, as outlined in the report of the Commissioner-General;

8. *Notes with profound concern* that the structural deficit problem confronting the Agency portends an almost certain decline in the living conditions of Palestine refugees and therefore has possible consequences for the peace process;

9. *Calls upon* all Governments, as a matter of urgency, to make the most generous efforts possible to meet the anticipated needs of the Agency, including the costs of moving the headquarters to Gaza, and urges non-contributing Governments to contribute regularly and contributing Governments to consider increasing their regular contributions;

10. *Decides* to extend the mandate of the Agency until 30 June 1999, without prejudice to the provisions of paragraph 11 of resolution 194 (III).

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6 December 1995

B

WORKING GROUP ON THE FINANCING OF THE UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES IN THE NEAR EAST

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 2656 (XXV) of 7 December 1970, 2728 (XXV) of 15 December 1970, 2791 (XXVI) of 6 December 1971, 49/35 B of 9 December 1994 and the previous resolutions on this question,

Recalling also its decision 36/462 of 16 March 1982, by which it took note of the special report of the Working Group on the Financing of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East,[18]

Having considered the report of the Working Group,[19]

Taking into account the report of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East covering the period from 1 July 1994 to 30 June 1995,[15]

Deeply concerned about the critical financial situation of the Agency, which has affected and affects the continuation of the provision of the necessary Agency services to the Palestine refugees, including the emergency-related programmes,

Emphasizing the continuing need for extraordinary efforts in order to maintain, at least at the current minimum level, the activities of the Agency, as well as to enable the Agency to carry out essential construction,

1. *Commends* the Working Group on the Financing of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East for its efforts to assist in ensuring the financial security of the Agency;

2. *Takes note with approval* of the report of the Working Group;

3. *Requests* the Working Group to continue its efforts, in cooperation with the Secretary-General and the Commissioner-General, for the financing of the Agency for a further period of one year;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the necessary services and assistance to the Working Group for the conduct of its work.

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C

PERSONS DISPLACED AS A RESULT OF THE JUNE 1967 AND SUBSEQUENT HOSTILITIES

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 2252 (ES-V) of 4 July 1967, 2341 B (XXI) of 19 December 1967 and all subsequent related resolutions,

Recalling also Security Council resolutions 237 (1967) of 14 June 1967 and 259 (1968) of 27 September 1968,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General submitted in pursuance of its resolution 49/35 C of 9 December 1994,[20]

Taking note also of the report of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East covering the period from 1 July 1994 to 30 June 1995,[15]

Concerned about the continuing human suffering resulting from the June 1967 and subsequent hostilities,

Taking note of the relevant provisions of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements, signed in Washington on 13 September 1993 by the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization,[16] with regard to the modalities for the admission of persons displaced in 1967,

1. *Reaffirms* the right of all persons displaced as a result of the June 1967 and subsequent hostilities to return to their homes or former places of residence in the territories occupied by Israel since 1967;

2. *Expresses the hope* for an accelerated return of displaced persons through the mechanism agreed upon by the parties in article XII of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements;

3. *Endorses*, in the meanwhile, the efforts of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East to continue to provide humanitarian assistance, as far as practicable, on an emergency basis, and as a temporary measure, to persons in the area who are currently displaced and in serious need of continued assistance as a result of the June 1967 and subsequent hostilities;

4. *Strongly appeals* to all Governments and to organizations and individuals to contribute generously to the Agency and to the other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned for the above purposes;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, after consulting with the Commissioner-General, to report to the General Assembly before its fifty-first session on the progress made with regard to the implementation of the present resolution.

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[18] A/36/866 and Corr.1; see also A/37/591.

[19] A/50/491.

[20] A/50/451.

D

OFFERS BY MEMBER STATES OF GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION, INCLUDING VOCATIONAL TRAINING, FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 212 (III) of 19 November 1948 on assistance to Palestine refugees,

Recalling also its resolutions 35/13 B of 3 November 1980, 36/146 H of 16 December 1981, 37/120 D of 16 December 1982, 38/83 D of 15 December 1983, 39/99 D of 14 December 1984, 40/165 D of 16 December 1985, 41/69 D of 3 December 1986, 42/69 D of 2 December 1987, 43/57 D of 6 December 1988, 44/47 D of 8 December 1989, 45/73 D of 11 December 1990, 46/46 D of 9 December 1991, 47/69 D of 14 December 1992, 48/40 D of 10 December 1993 and 49/35 D of 9 December 1994,

Cognizant of the fact that the Palestine refugees have, for the last four decades, lost their homes, lands and means of livelihood,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[21]

Having also considered the report of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East covering the period from 1 July 1994 to 30 June 1995,[15]

1. *Urges* all States to respond to the appeal in its resolution 32/90 F of 13 December 1977 and reiterated in subsequent relevant resolutions in a manner commensurate with the needs of Palestine refugees for higher education, including vocational training;

2. *Strongly appeals* to all States, specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations to augment the special allocations for grants and scholarships to Palestine refugees, in addition to their contributions to the regular budget of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to all Governments, specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations that responded favourably to its resolutions 41/69 D, 42/69 D, 43/57 D, 44/47 D, 45/73 D, 46/46 D, 47/69 D, 48/40 D and 49/35 D;

4. *Invites* the relevant specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to continue, within their respective spheres of competence, to extend assistance for higher education to Palestine refugee students;

5. *Appeals* to all States, specialized agencies and the United Nations University to contribute generously to the Palestinian universities in the Palestinian territory occupied by Israel since 1967, including, in due course, the proposed University of Jerusalem "Al-Quds" for Palestine refugees;

6. *Appeals also* to all States, specialized agencies and other international bodies to contribute towards the establishment of vocational training centres for Palestine refugees;

7. *Requests* the Agency to act as the recipient and trustee for the special allocations for grants and scholarships and to award them to qualified Palestine refugee candidates;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session on the implementation of the present resolution.

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6 December 1995

E

OPERATIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES IN THE NEAR EAST

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 194 (III) of 11 December 1948, 212 (III) of 19 November 1948, 302 (IV) of 8 December 1949 and all subsequent related resolutions,

Recalling also the relevant Security Council resolutions,

Having considered the report of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East covering the period from 1 July 1994 to 30 June 1995,[15]

Taking note of the letter dated 4 October 1995 from the Chairman of the Advisory Commission of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East addressed to the Commissioner-General, contained in the report of the Commissioner-General,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General submitted in pursuance of its resolutions 48/40 E,[22] 48/40 H[23] and 48/40 J[24] of 10 December 1993 and 49/35 C of 9 December 1994,[20]

Recalling Articles 100, 104 and 105 of the Charter of the United Nations and the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations,[25]

Affirming the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[26] to the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem,

Aware of the fact that Palestine refugees have, for over four decades, lost their homes, lands and means of livelihood,

Also aware of the continuing needs of Palestine refugees throughout the occupied Palestinian territory and in the other fields of operation, namely in Lebanon, Jordan and the Syrian Arab Republic,

Expressing its appreciation for the role which has been played by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East over the years in the service of the Palestine refugees, and aware of the importance of its presence and the increase in its work in the new circumstances,

Further aware of the valuable work done by the refugee affairs officers of the Agency in providing protection to the Palestinian people, in particular Palestine refugees,

Deeply concerned about the critical financial situation of the Agency and its effect on the continuity of provision of necessary Agency services to the Palestine refugees, including the emergency-related programmes,

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[21] A/50/450.

[22] A/49/440.

[23] A/49/442.

[24] A/49/443.

[25] Resolution 22 A (I).

[26] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

Aware of the initiation of the new peace implementation programme of the Agency,

Convinced of the necessity of the transfer of the headquarters of the Agency to the occupied Palestinian territory as part of the area of operation of the Agency,

Welcoming the signing in Washington on 13 September 1993 of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements by the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization,[16] and the subsequent implementation agreements, including the Agreement on the Gaza Strip and the Jericho Area signed at Cairo on 4 May 1994[27] and the Interim Agreement on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip signed in Washington on 28 September 1995,

Taking note of the agreement reached on 24 June 1994, embodied in an exchange of letters between the Agency and the Palestine Liberation Organization,[28]

Recalling its decision 48/417 of 10 December 1993 on the establishment of a working relationship between the Advisory Commission of the Agency and the Palestine Liberation Organization,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, as well as to all the staff of the Agency, for their tireless efforts and valuable work;

2. *Expresses its appreciation also* to the Advisory Commission of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, and requests it to continue its efforts and to keep the General Assembly informed on its activities, including the full implementation of decision 48/417;

3. *Acknowledges* the support of the host Governments and the Palestine Liberation Organization for the Agency in the discharge of its duties;

4. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to accept the *de jure* applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[26] and to abide scrupulously by its provisions;

5. *Also calls upon* Israel to abide by Articles 100, 104 and 105 of the Charter of the United Nations and the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations[25] with regard to the safety of the personnel of the Agency and the protection of its institutions and the safeguarding of the security of the facilities of the Agency in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem;

6. *Calls once again upon* the Government of Israel to compensate the Agency for damages to its property and facilities resulting from actions by the Israeli side;

7. *Requests* the Commissioner-General to proceed with the issuance of identification cards for Palestine refugees and their descendants in the occupied Palestinian territory;

8. *Notes* that the new context created by the signing of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements by the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization and subsequent implementation agreements has had major consequences for the activities of the Agency, which is henceforth called upon, in close cooperation with the United Nations Special Coordinator in the Occupied Territories, the specialized agencies and the World Bank, to continue to contribute towards the development of economic and social stability in the occupied territory;

9. *Notes also* that the functioning of the Agency remains essential in all fields of operation;

10. *Notes further* the significant success of the peace implementation programme of the Agency during the first year following the signing of the Declaration of Principles;

11. *Urges* all States, specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations to continue and to increase their contributions to the Agency so as to ease current financial constraints and to support the Agency in maintaining the provision of the most basic and effective assistance to the Palestine refugees.

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6 December 1995

F

REVENUES DERIVED FROM PALESTINE REFUGEES' PROPERTIES

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 194 (III) of 11 December 1948, 36/146 C of 16 December 1981 and all its subsequent resolutions on the question,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General in pursuance of resolution 49/35 F of 9 December 1994,[29]

Taking note also of the report of the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine covering the period from 1 September 1994 to 31 August 1995,[17]

Recalling that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[30] and the principles of international law uphold the principle that no one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his or her private property,

Considering that the Palestine Arab refugees are entitled to their property and to the income derived therefrom, in conformity with the principles of justice and equity,

Recalling in particular its resolution 394 (V) of 14 December 1950, in which it directed the Conciliation Commission, in consultation with the parties concerned, to prescribe measures for the protection of the rights, property and interests of the Palestine Arab refugees,

Taking note of the completion of the programme of identification and evaluation of Arab property, as announced by the Conciliation Commission in its twenty-second progress report,[31] and of the fact that the Land Office had a schedule of Arab owners and file of documents defining the location, area and other particulars of Arab property,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all appropriate steps, in consultation with the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine, for the protection of Arab property, assets and property rights in Israel and to establish a fund for the receipt of income derived therefrom, on behalf of the rightful owners;

2. *Calls once more upon* Israel to render all facilities and assistance to the Secretary-General in the implementation of the present resolution;

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[27] A/49/180-S/1994/727, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-ninth Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1994*, document S/1994/727.

[28] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 13* (A/49/13), annex I.

[29] A/50/428.

[30] Resolution 217 A (III).

[31] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Nineteenth Session, Annexes*, Annex No. 11, document A/5700.

3. *Calls upon* the Governments of all the other Member States concerned to provide the Secretary-General with any pertinent information in their possession concerning Arab property, assets and property rights in Israel which would assist the Secretary-General in the implementation of the present resolution;

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session on the implementation of the present resolution.

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6 December 1995

G

UNIVERSITY OF JERUSALEM "AL-QUDS" FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 36/146 G of 16 December 1981, 37/120 C of 16 December 1982, 38/83 K of 15 December 1983, 39/99 K of 14 December 1984, 40/165 D and K of 16 December 1985, 41/69 K of 3 December 1986, 42/69 K of 2 December 1987, 43/57 J of 6 December 1988, 44/47 J of 8 December 1989, 45/73 J of 11 December 1990, 46/46 J of 9 December 1991, 47/69 J of 14 December 1992, 48/40 I of 10 December 1993 and 49/35 G of 9 December 1994,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[32]

Having also considered the report of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East covering the period from 1 July 1994 to 30 June 1995,[15]

1. *Emphasizes* the need for strengthening the educational system in the Palestinian territory occupied by Israel since 5 June 1967, including Jerusalem, and specifically the need for the establishment of the proposed university;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to take all necessary measures for establishing the University of Jerusalem "Al-Quds", in accordance with General Assembly resolution 35/13 B of 3 November 1980, giving due consideration to the recommendations consistent with the provisions of that resolution;

3. *Calls once more upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to cooperate in the implementation of the present resolution and to remove the hindrances that it has put in the way of establishing the University of Jerusalem "Al-Quds";

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution.

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6 December 1995

50/29. Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories

A

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Guided also by the principles of international humanitarian law, in particular the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[26] as well as international standards of human rights, in particular the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[30] and the International Covenants on Human Rights,[33]

Recalling its relevant resolutions, including resolution 2443 (XXIII) of 19 December 1968, and relevant resolutions of the Commission on Human Rights,

Recalling also relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

Aware of the uprising (*intifadah*) of the Palestinian people,

Convinced that occupation itself represents a primary violation of human rights,

Having considered the reports of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories[34] and the relevant reports of the Secretary-General,[35]

Noting the signing of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements, including its Annexes and its Agreed Minutes, by the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization in Washington on 13 September 1993,[16] as well as the subsequent implementation agreements, including the Agreement on the Gaza Strip and the Jericho Area signed at Cairo on 4 May 1994 [27] and the Interim Agreement on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip signed in Washington on 28 September 1995,

Expressing the hope that, with the progress of the peace process, the Israeli occupation will be brought to an end and therefore violation of the human rights of the Palestinian people will cease,

1. *Commends* the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories for its efforts in performing the tasks assigned to it by the General Assembly and for its impartiality;

2. *Demands* that Israel cooperate with the Special Committee in implementing its mandate;

3. *Deplores* those policies and practices of Israel which violate the human rights of the Palestinian people and other Arabs of the occupied territories, as reflected in the reports of the Special Committee covering the reporting period;[34]

4. *Expresses the hope* that, in the light of the recent positive political developments, those policies and practices will be brought to an end immediately;

5. *Requests* the Special Committee, pending complete termination of the Israeli occupation, to continue to investigate Israeli policies and practices in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967, to consult, as appropriate, with the International Committee of the Red Cross according to its regulations in order to ensure that the welfare and human rights of the peoples of the occupied territories are safeguarded and to report to the Secretary-General as soon as possible and whenever the need arises thereafter;

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[32] A/50/531.

[33] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[34] See A/50/170, A/50/282 and A/50/463.

[35] A/50/657 to A/50/660.

6. *Also requests* the Special Committee to submit regularly to the Secretary-General periodic reports on the current situation in the occupied Palestinian territory;

7. *Further requests* the Special Committee to continue to investigate the treatment of prisoners in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(*a*) To provide all necessary facilities to the Special Committee, including those required for its visits to the occupied territories, so that it may investigate the Israeli policies and practices referred to in the present resolution;

(*b*) To continue to make available such additional staff as may be necessary to assist the Special Committee in the performance of its tasks;

(*c*) To circulate regularly to Member States the periodic reports mentioned in paragraph 6 above;

(*d*) To ensure the widest circulation of the reports of the Special Committee and of information regarding its activities and findings, by all means available, through the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat and, where necessary, to reprint those reports of the Special Committee that are no longer available;

(*e*) To report to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session on the tasks entrusted to him in the present resolution;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session the item entitled "Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories".

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6 December 1995

B

The General Assembly,

Recalling its relevant resolutions,

Bearing in mind the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

Having considered the reports of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories[34] and the relevant reports of the Secretary-General,[35]

Considering that the promotion of respect for the obligations arising from the Charter of the United Nations and other instruments and rules of international law is among the basic purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Stressing that Israel, the occupying Power, should comply strictly with its obligations under international law,

1. *Reaffirms* that the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[26] is applicable to the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967;

2. *Demands* that Israel accept the *de jure* applicability of the Convention in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967, and that it comply scrupulously with the provisions of the Convention;

3. *Calls upon* all States parties to the Convention, in accordance with article 1 common to the four Geneva Conventions,[36] to exert all efforts in order to ensure respect for its provisions by Israel, the occupying Power, in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session on the implementation of the present resolution.

82nd plenary meeting
6 December 1995

C

The General Assembly,

Recalling its relevant resolutions and the resolutions of the Commission on Human Rights,

Bearing in mind the relevant resolutions of the Security Council, the most recent of which is resolution 904 (1994) of 18 March 1994,

Having considered the reports of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories[34] and the reports of the Secretary-General,[35]

Aware of the responsibility of the international community to promote human rights and ensure respect for international law,

Reaffirming the principle of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force,

Reaffirming also the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[26] to the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967,

Welcoming the signing of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements, including its Annexes and its Agreed Minutes, by the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization in Washington on 13 September 1993,[16] as well as the subsequent implementation agreements, including the Agreement on the Gaza Strip and the Jericho Area signed at Cairo on 4 May 1994[27] and the Interim Agreement on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip signed in Washington on 28 September 1995,

Noting the withdrawal of the Israeli army, which took place in the Gaza Strip and the Jericho area in accordance with the agreements reached between the parties, and the initiation of the Palestinian Authority in those areas,

Concerned about the continuing violation of the human rights of the Palestinian people by Israel, the occupying Power, especially in the use of collective punishment, closure of areas, annexation and establishment of settlements, and the continuing actions by it designed to change the legal status, geographical nature and demographic composition of the occupied Palestinian territory,

Concerned in particular about the dangerous situation resulting from actions taken by the illegal, armed Israeli settlers in the occupied territory, as illustrated by the massacre of Palestinian worshippers by an illegal Israeli settler in Al-Khalil on 25 February 1994,

Convinced of the positive impact of a temporary international or foreign presence in the occupied Palestinian territory for the safety and protection of the Palestinian people,

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[36] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970-973.

Expressing its appreciation to the countries that participated in the Temporary International Presence in Hebron for their positive contribution,

Also convinced of the need for the full implementation of Security Council resolution 904 (1994),

1. *Determines* that all measures and actions taken by Israel, the occupying Power, in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, in violation of the relevant provisions of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[26] and contrary to the relevant resolutions of the Security Council are illegal and have no validity, and demands that Israel desist forthwith from taking any such measures or actions;

2. *Reaffirms in particular* that the Israeli settlements in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and the other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967 are illegal and an obstacle to achieving comprehensive peace;

3. *Notes with satisfaction* the return of a number of deportees to the occupied Palestinian territory and calls upon Israel to facilitate the return of the remainder;

4. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to accelerate the release of all remaining Palestinians arbitrarily detained or imprisoned, in line with agreements reached;

5. *Calls* for complete respect by Israel, the occupying Power, of all fundamental freedoms of the Palestinian people, pending the extension of the self-government arrangements to the rest of the West Bank;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session on the implementation of the present resolution.

82nd plenary meeting
6 December 1995

D

The General Assembly,

Deeply concerned that the Syrian Golan occupied since 1967 has been under continued Israeli military occupation,

Recalling Security Council resolution 497 (1981) of 17 December 1981,

Recalling also its previous relevant resolutions, the last of which was 49/36 D of 9 December 1994,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General of 20 October 1995,[37]

Recalling further its previous relevant resolutions in which, *inter alia*, it called upon Israel to put an end to its occupation of the Arab territories,

Reaffirming once more the illegality of the decision of 14 December 1981 taken by Israel to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the occupied Syrian Golan, which has resulted in the effective annexation of that territory,

Reaffirming that the acquisition of territory by force is inadmissible under the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming also the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[26] to the occupied Syrian Golan,

Bearing in mind Security Council resolution 237 (1967) of 14 June 1967,

Welcoming the convening at Madrid of the Peace Conference on the Middle East on the basis of Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967 and 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973 aimed at the realization of a just, comprehensive and lasting peace, and stressing the need for rapid progress in all bilateral negotiations,

1. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to comply with the relevant resolutions on the occupied Syrian Golan, in particular Security Council resolution 497 (1981), in which the Council, *inter alia*, decided that the Israeli decision to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the occupied Syrian Golan was null and void and without international legal effect, and demanded that Israel, the occupying Power, should rescind forthwith its decisions;

2. *Also calls upon* Israel to desist from changing the physical character, demographic composition, institutional structure and legal status of the occupied Syrian Golan and in particular to desist from the establishment of settlements;

3. *Determines* that all legislative and administrative measures and actions taken or to be taken by Israel, the occupying Power, that purport to alter the character and legal status of the occupied Syrian Golan are null and void, constitute a flagrant violation of international law and of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, and have no legal effect;

4. *Further calls upon* Israel to desist from imposing Israeli citizenship and Israeli identity cards on the Syrian citizens in the occupied Syrian Golan, and to desist from its repressive measures against the population of the occupied Syrian Golan;

5. *Deplores* the violations by Israel of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949;

6. *Calls once again upon* Member States not to recognize any of the legislative or administrative measures and actions referred to above;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session on the implementation of the present resolution.

82nd plenary meeting
6 December 1995

50/30. Comprehensive review of the whole question of peace-keeping operations in all their aspects

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2006 (XIX) of 18 February 1965 and all other relevant resolutions,

Recalling in particular its resolution 49/37 of 9 December 1994,

Affirming, on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations, that the efforts of the United Nations in the peaceful settlement of disputes, including through its peace-keeping operations, are indispensable,

Stressing the important role played by peace-keeping operations in maintaining international peace and security, and recognizing the need to ensure the safety of United Nations peace-keepers,

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[37] A/50/660.

Taking note of the section on peace-keeping of the position paper of the Secretary-General, "Supplement to an Agenda for Peace,"[38] and of the statement by the President of the Security Council of 22 February 1995,[39]

Taking note also of the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization,[40]

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General on the command and control of United Nations peace-keeping operations,[41]

Taking note further of the report of the Secretary-General on improving preparedness for conflict prevention and peace-keeping in Africa[42] and the recommendations therein, which should be considered further in consultation with the Organization of African Unity,

Noting the widespread interest in contributing to the work of the Special Committee on Peace-keeping Operations expressed by many Member States, including troop-contributing countries,

Bearing in mind the continuous necessity of strengthening the effectiveness of the work of the Special Committee,

Convinced of the need for the United Nations to continue to improve its capabilities in the field of peace-keeping and to enhance the effective and efficient deployment of its peace-keeping missions,

Taking note in this regard of the various proposals and views regarding United Nations peace-keeping put forward during the Special Commemorative Meeting and the general debate at the present session of the General Assembly,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Special Committee on Peace-keeping Operations;[43]

2. *Endorses* the proposals, recommendations and conclusions of the Special Committee contained in paragraphs 35 to 93 of its report;

3. *Urges* Member States, the Secretariat and relevant organs of the United Nations to take all necessary steps to implement the proposals, recommendations and conclusions of the Special Committee;

4. *Recommends* that, should any of the proposals contained in the present resolution result in budgetary implications for the bienniums 1994-1995 and 1996-1997, such additional costs be accommodated within the appropriation levels approved by the General Assembly for those bienniums, in accordance with the Financial Regulations and Rules of the Organization;

5. *Decides* that the Special Committee, in accordance with its mandate, should continue its efforts for a comprehensive review of the whole question of peace-keeping operations in all their aspects; the Special Committee should review the implementation of its previous proposals and consider new proposals so as to enhance the capacity of the United Nations to fulfil its responsibilities in this field;

6. *Requests* the Special Committee to consider the expansion of its membership, analysing all available options, invites its chairman to consult with interested States and requests the Special Committee to submit specific recommendations to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session;

7. *Also requests* the Special Committee to submit a report on its work to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session the item entitled "Comprehensive review of the whole question of peace-keeping operations in all their aspects".

82nd plenary meeting
6 December 1995

50/31. Questions relating to information

A

INFORMATION IN THE SERVICE OF HUMANITY

The General Assembly,

Taking note of the comprehensive and important report of the Committee on Information,[44]

Also taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on questions relating to information,[45]

Urges all countries, organizations of the United Nations system as a whole and all others concerned, reaffirming their commitment to the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and to the principles of freedom of the press and freedom of information, as well as to those of the independence, pluralism and diversity of the media, deeply concerned by the disparities existing between developed and developing countries and the consequences of every kind arising from those disparities that affect the capability of the public, private or other media and individuals in developing countries to disseminate information and communicate their views and their cultural and ethical values through endogenous cultural production, as well as to ensure the diversity of sources and their free access to information, and recognizing the call in this context for what in the United Nations and at various international forums has been termed "a new world information and communication order, seen as an evolving and continuous process":

(*a*) To cooperate and interact with a view to reducing existing disparities in information flows at all levels by increasing assistance for the development of communication infrastructures and capabilities in developing countries, with due regard for their needs and the priorities attached to such areas by those countries, and in order to enable them and the public, private or other media in developing countries to develop their own information and communication policies freely and independently and increase the participation of media and individuals in the communication process, and to ensure a free flow of information at all levels;

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[38] A/50/60-S/1995/1; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fiftieth Year, Supplement for January, February and March 1995*, document S/1995/1.

[39] *Official Records of the Security Council, Fiftieth Year, Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1995*, document S/PRST/1995/9.

[40] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No.* 1 (A/50/1).

[41] A/49/681.

[42] A/50/711-S/1995/911; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fiftieth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1995*, document S/1995/911.

[43] A/50/230.

[44] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 21* (A/50/21).

[45] A/50/462.

(*b*) To ensure for journalists the free and effective performance of their professional tasks and condemn resolutely all attacks against them;

(*c*) To provide support for the continuation and strengthening of practical training programmes for broadcasters and journalists from public, private and other media in developing countries;

(*d*) To enhance regional efforts and cooperation among developing countries, as well as cooperation between developed and developing countries, to strengthen communication capacities and to improve the media infrastructure and communication technology in the developing countries, especially in the areas of training and dissemination of information;

(*e*) To aim, in addition to bilateral cooperation, at providing all possible support and assistance to the developing countries and their media, public, private or other, with due regard to their interests and needs in the field of information and to action already adopted within the United Nations system, including:

(i) The development of the human and technical resources that are indispensable for the improvement of information and communication systems in developing countries and support for the continuation and strengthening of practical training programmes, such as those already operating under both public and private auspices throughout the developing world;

(ii) The creation of conditions that will enable developing countries and their media, public, private or other, to have, by using their national and regional resources, the communication technology suited to their national needs, as well as the necessary programme material, especially for radio and television broadcasting;

(iii) Assistance in establishing and promoting telecommunication links at the subregional, regional and interregional levels, especially among developing countries;

(iv) The facilitation, as appropriate, of access by the developing countries to advanced communication technology available on the open market;

(*f*) To provide full support for the International Programme for the Development of Communication[46] of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, which should support both public and private media.

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B

UNITED NATIONS PUBLIC INFORMATION POLICIES AND ACTIVITIES

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its primary role in elaborating, coordinating and harmonizing United Nations policies and activities in the field of information,

Also reaffirming that the Secretary-General should ensure that the activities of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat, as the focal point for the public information tasks of the United Nations, are strengthened and improved, keeping in view the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, the priority areas defined by the General Assembly and the recommendations of the Committee on Information,

Taking note of all the reports of the Secretary-General submitted to the Committee at its seventeenth session,

1. *Welcomes* Belize, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Kazakstan, and South Africa following the establishment of a united, non-racial and democratic Government in that country, to membership in the Committee on Information;

2. *Decides* to consolidate the role of the Committee as its main subsidiary body mandated to make recommendations relating to the work of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat;

3. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General, in respect of the public information policies and activities of the United Nations, to implement fully the recommendations contained in paragraph 2 of its resolution 48/44 B of 10 December 1993;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in order to put into practice the need for an effective public information capacity of the Department of Public Information for the formation and day-to-day functioning of the information components of peace-keeping and other field operations of the United Nations, to ensure the involvement of the Department at the planning stage of such future operations through interdepartmental consultations and coordination with the other substantive departments of the Secretariat;

5. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General regarding the continuous and major publications of the Department of Public Information[47] and urges all efforts to ensure timely production and dissemination of its major publications, in particular the *UN Chronicle*, the *Yearbook of the United Nations* and *Africa Recovery*, maintaining consistent editorial independence and accuracy, and taking the necessary measures to ensure that its output contains adequate, objective and equitable information about issues before the Organization, reflecting divergent opinions wherever they occur;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to increase his efforts for the early resumption of the publication *Development Forum*, or an alternative system-wide publication that meets the requirements set out for new publications by the Committee on Information;

7. *Requests* the management of the Department of Public Information to review its publications and proposals for publications to ensure that all publications fulfil an identifiable need, that they do not duplicate other publications inside or outside the United Nations system and that they are produced in a cost-effective manner, and to report thereon to the Committee at its eighteenth session;

8. *Reaffirms* the importance attached by Member States to the role of United Nations information centres in effectively and comprehensively disseminating information, particularly in developing countries and countries in transition, about United Nations activities;

9. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the results of the trial of integrating United Nations infor-

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[46] See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Twenty-first Session, Belgrade, 23 September to 28 October 1980*, vol. 1, *Resolutions*, sect. III.4, resolution 4/21.

[47] A/AC.198/1995/3.

mation centres with field offices of the United Nations Development Programme,[48] and invites the Secretary-General to continue the integration exercise whenever feasible, on a case-by-case basis, while taking into account the views of the host country, and ensuring that the information functions and autonomy of the United Nations information centres are not adversely affected, and to report thereon to the Committee;

10. *Reaffirms* the role of the General Assembly in relation to the opening of new United Nations information centres and invites the Secretary-General, as well, to make such recommendations as he may judge necessary regarding the establishment and location of these centres;

11. *Also takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the allocation of resources to United Nations information centres in 1994[49] and calls upon him to continue to study ways and means to rationalize and effect equitable disbursement of available resources to all United Nations information centres and to report thereon to the Committee at its eighteenth session;

12. *Welcomes* the action by some Member States with regard to financial and material support to United Nations information centres in their respective capitals;

13. *Welcomes also* the successful conclusion of the negotiations on the establishment of a United Nations information component at Warsaw;

14. *Notes* the progress made by the Secretary-General and the German authorities towards establishing, within existing resources of the Department of Public Information, a United Nations information centre at Bonn;

15. *Notes with appreciation* the action taken, or being taken, by the Secretary-General regarding the reactivation and enhancement of the United Nations information centres at Bujumbura, Dar es Salaam, Dhaka and Tehran;

16. *Welcomes further* the continued enhanced cooperation between the Department of Public Information and the University for Peace in Costa Rica as a focal point for promoting United Nations activities and disseminating United Nations information materials;

17. *Takes note* of the requests of Bulgaria, Gabon, Guinea, Haiti and Slovakia for information centres or information components;

18. *Expresses its full support* for the wide and prompt coverage of United Nations activities through a continuation of United Nations press releases in both working languages of the Secretariat, namely, English and French, and welcomes the improvements in the quality and speedy issue of those press releases in both working languages;

19. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to explore ways and means to improve the access of United Nations radio to airwaves worldwide, bearing in mind that radio is one of the most cost-effective and far-reaching media available to the Department of Public Information and is an important instrument in United Nations activities with regard to development and peace-keeping;

20. *Notes with appreciation* the efforts of the Department of Public Information to take advantage of recent developments in information technology in order to improve the dissemination of information on the United Nations, and encourages the Department to continue its efforts in this field;

21. *Notes* the important role the Department of Public Information will have to play in responding to the increased public interest resulting from the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations, and requests the Department to ensure the greatest possible access to United Nations guided tours, as well as to ensure that displays in public areas are kept as informative, up to date and relevant as possible;

22. *Invites* Member States that wish to do so to submit to the Secretary-General by 15 March 1996 their observations and suggestions on ways and means of furthering the development of communication infrastructures and capabilities in developing countries, with a view to consolidating recent experience in the field of international cooperation aimed at enabling them to develop their own information and communication capacities freely and independently, and requests the Secretary-General to report thereon to the Committee on Information at its eighteenth session;

23. *Recommends*, in order to continue to facilitate contact between the Department of Public Information and the Committee on Information between sessions, that the Bureau of the Committee, together with representatives of each regional group, the Group of 77 and China, in close contact with the members of the Committee, should meet on a regular basis and consult at periodic intervals with representatives of the Department;

24. *Takes note* of the request of Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine concerning information activities for the tenth anniversary in 1996 of the Chernobyl disaster and calls upon the Department of Public Information to continue cooperation with the countries concerned, and with the relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, with a view to establishing and implementing such activities as appropriate, and within existing resources;

25. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Committee on Information at its eighteenth session and to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session on the activities of the Department of Public Information and on the implementation of the recommendations contained in the present resolution;

26. *Decides* that the eighteenth session of the Committee should last not more than ten working days, and invites the Bureau of the Committee to explore ways and means of making optimum use of the Committee's time;

27. *Requests* the Committee to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session;

28. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session the item entitled "Questions relating to information".

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6 December 1995

50/32. Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Having examined the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to the information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations[50] and the action taken by the Special Committee in respect of that information,

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[48] A/AC.198/1995/5.

[49] A/AC.198/1995/2.

Having also examined the report of the Secretary-General on the item,[51]

Recalling its resolution 1970 (XVIII) of 16 December 1963, in which it requested the Special Committee to study the information transmitted to the Secretary-General in accordance with Article 73 *e* of the Charter and to take such information fully into account in examining the situation with regard to the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960,

Recalling also its resolution 49/39 of 9 December 1994, in which it requested the Special Committee to continue to discharge the functions entrusted to it under resolution 1970 (XVIII),

Stressing the importance of timely transmission by the administering Powers of adequate information under Article 73 *e* of the Charter, in particular in relation to the preparation by the Secretariat of the working papers on the Territories concerned,

1. *Approves* the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to the information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations;

2. *Reaffirms* that, in the absence of a decision by the General Assembly itself that a Non-Self-Governing Territory has attained a full measure of self-government in terms of Chapter XI of the Charter, the administering Power concerned should continue to transmit information under Article 73 *e* of the Charter with respect to that Territory;

3. *Requests* the administering Powers concerned to transmit or continue to transmit to the Secretary-General the information prescribed in Article 73 *e* of the Charter, as well as the fullest possible information on political and constitutional developments in the Territories concerned, within a maximum period of six months following the expiration of the administrative year in those Territories;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure that adequate information is drawn from all available published sources in connection with the preparation of the working papers relating to the Territories concerned;

5. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to discharge the functions entrusted to it under resolution 1970 (XVIII), in accordance with established procedures, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session.

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50/33. Activities of foreign economic and other interests which impede the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples in Territories under colonial domination

The General Assembly,

Having considered the item entitled "Activities of foreign economic and other interests which impede the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples in Territories under colonial domination",

Having examined the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to the item,[52]

Recalling its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, as well as all its other relevant resolutions, including, in particular, resolution 46/181 of 19 December 1991, endorsing the plan of action for the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,[53]

Reaffirming the solemn obligation of the administering Powers under the Charter of the United Nations to promote the political, economic, social and educational advancement of the inhabitants of the Territories under their administration and to protect the human and natural resources of those Territories against abuses,

Reaffirming also that any economic or other activity that constitutes an obstacle to the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and obstructs efforts aimed at the elimination of colonialism is a direct violation of the rights of the inhabitants and of the principles of the Charter and all relevant resolutions of the United Nations,

Reaffirming further that the natural resources are the heritage of the indigenous populations of the colonial and Non-Self-Governing Territories,

Aware of the special circumstances of the geographical location, size and economic conditions of each Territory and bearing in mind the need to promote the stability, diversification and strengthening of the respective economy of each Territory,

Conscious of the particular vulnerability of the small Territories to natural disasters and environmental degradation,

Conscious also that foreign economic investment, when done in collaboration with the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and in accordance with their wishes, could make a valid contribution to the socio-economic development of the Territories and could also make a valid contribution to the exercise of their right to self-determination,

Concerned about the activities of those foreign economic, financial and other interests which exploit the natural and human resources of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to the detriment of the interests of the inhabitants of those Territories and deprive them of their right to control the wealth of their countries,

Bearing in mind the relevant provisions of the final documents of the successive Conferences of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries and of the resolutions adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, the South Pacific Forum and the Caribbean Community,

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[50] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 23*, (A/50/23) chap. VIII.

[51] A/50/458.

[52] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/50/23), chap. V.

[53] See A/46/634/Rev.1.

1. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the peoples of colonial and Non-Self-Governing Territories to self-determination and independence and to the enjoyment of the natural resources of their Territories, as well as their right to dispose of those resources in their best interests;

2. *Affirms* the value of foreign economic investment undertaken in collaboration with the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and in accordance with their wishes in order to make a valid contribution to the socio-economic development of the Territories;

3. *Reiterates* that any administering Power that deprives the colonial peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories of the exercise of their legitimate rights over their natural resources, or subordinates the rights and interests of those peoples to foreign economic and financial interests, violates the solemn obligations it has assumed under the Charter of the United Nations;

4. *Reaffirms its concern* about the activities of those foreign economic, financial and other interests which continue to exploit the natural resources that are the heritage of the indigenous populations of the colonial and Non-Self-Governing Territories in the Caribbean, the Pacific and other regions, as well as their human resources, to the detriment of their interests, thus depriving them of their right to control the resources of their Territories and impeding the realization by those peoples of their legitimate aspirations for self-determination and independence;

5. *Reiterates its deep concern* about those activities of foreign economic and other interests in the colonial and Non-Self-Governing Territories which are impeding the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in its resolution 1514 (XV), and the efforts to eliminate colonialism;

6. *Calls once again upon* all Governments that have not yet done so to take, in accordance with the relevant provisions of its resolution 2621 (XXV) of 12 October 1970, legislative, administrative or other measures in respect of their nationals and the bodies corporate under their jurisdiction, if any, that own and operate enterprises in colonial and Non-Self-Governing Territories that are detrimental to the interests of the inhabitants of those Territories, in order to put an end to such practices and to prevent new investments that run counter to the interests of the inhabitants of those Territories;

7. *Reiterates* that the damaging exploitation and plundering of the marine and other natural resources of colonial and Non-Self-Governing Territories by foreign economic interests, in violation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations, is a threat to the integrity and prosperity of those Territories;

8. *Invites* all Governments and organizations of the United Nations system to ensure that the permanent sovereignty of the peoples of colonial and Non-Self-Governing Territories over their natural resources is fully respected and safeguarded;

9. *Urges* the administering Powers concerned to continue to take effective measures to safeguard and guarantee the inalienable right of the peoples of the colonial and Non-Self-Governing Territories to their natural resources and to establish and maintain control over the future development of those resources, and requests the administering Powers to continue to take all necessary steps to protect the property rights of the peoples of those Territories;

10. *Calls upon* the administering Powers concerned to ensure that no discriminatory working conditions prevail in the Territories under their administration and to promote in each Territory a fair system of wages applicable to all the inhabitants without any discrimination;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue, through all means at his disposal, to inform world public opinion of those activities of foreign economic and other interests which impede the implementation of the Declaration;

12. *Appeals* to the mass media, trade unions and non-governmental organizations, as well as individuals, to continue their efforts for the full implementation of the Declaration;

13. *Decides* to continue to follow the situation in the colonial and Non-Self-Governing Territories so as to ensure that all economic activities in those Territories are aimed at strengthening and diversifying their economies in the interest of the indigenous peoples and at promoting the economic and financial viability of those Territories, in order to facilitate and accelerate the exercise by the peoples of those Territories of their right to self-determination and independence;

14. *Requests* the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue to examine this question and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session.

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50/34. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Having considered the item entitled "Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations",

Having also considered the reports submitted on the item by the Secretary-General[54] and the Chairman of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,[55]

Having examined the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to the item,[56]

Recalling its resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 and 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960, and resolutions of the Special Committee, as well as other relevant resolutions and decisions of the United Nations,

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[54] A/50/212 and Add.1.

[55] A/AC.109/L.1838.

[56] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/50/23), chap. VII.

Bearing in mind the relevant provisions of the final documents of the successive Conferences of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries and of the resolutions adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, the South Pacific Forum and the Caribbean Community,

Conscious of the need to facilitate the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in its resolution 1514 (XV),

Noting that the large majority of the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories are small island Territories,

Welcoming the assistance extended to Non-Self-Governing Territories by certain specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme,

Stressing that, because the development options of small island Non-Self-Governing Territories are limited, there are special challenges to planning for and implementing sustainable development and that those Territories will be constrained in meeting the challenges without the continuing cooperation and assistance of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system,

Stressing also the importance of securing necessary resources for funding expanded assistance programmes for the peoples concerned and the need to enlist the support of all major funding institutions within the United Nations system in that regard,

Reaffirming the mandates of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to take all the appropriate measures, within their respective spheres of competence, to ensure the full implementation of resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions,

Expressing its appreciation to the Organization of African Unity, the South Pacific Forum and the Caribbean Community, as well as other regional organizations, for the continuing cooperation and assistance they have extended to the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in this regard,

Expressing its conviction that closer contacts and consultations between and among the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and regional organizations help to facilitate the effective formulation of assistance programmes for the peoples concerned,

Mindful of the imperative need to keep under continuous review the activities of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in the implementation of the various United Nations decisions relating to decolonization,

Bearing in mind the extremely fragile economies of the Non-Self-Governing small island Territories and their vulnerability to natural disasters, such as hurricanes, cyclones and sea-level rise, and recalling its relevant resolutions,

Recalling its resolution 49/41 of 9 December 1994 on the implementation of the Declaration by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Chairman of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples on his consultations with the President of the Economic and Social Council and endorses the observations and suggestions arising therefrom;[57]

2. *Recommends* that all States intensify their efforts in the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to ensure implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

3. *Reaffirms* that the specialized agencies and other organizations and institutions of the United Nations system should continue to be guided by the relevant resolutions of the United Nations in their efforts to contribute to the implementation of the Declaration and other relevant General Assembly resolutions;

4. *Reaffirms also* that the recognition by the General Assembly and other United Nations organs of the legitimacy of the aspiration of the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories to exercise their right to self-determination entails, as a corollary, the extension of all appropriate assistance to those peoples;

5. *Expresses its appreciation* to those specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system that have continued to cooperate with the United Nations and the regional and subregional organizations in the implementation of resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

6. *Requests* the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations, as well as regional organizations, to examine and review conditions in each Territory so as to take appropriate measures to accelerate progress in the economic and social sectors of the Territories and strengthen existing measures of support, and, in that regard, to formulate appropriate programmes of assistance to the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories, within the framework of their respective mandates;

7. *Recommends* that the executive heads of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system formulate, with the active cooperation of the regional organizations concerned, concrete proposals for the full implementation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations and submit the proposals to their governing and legislative organs;

8. *Also recommends* that the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system continue to review at the regular meetings of their governing bodies the implementation of resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

9. *Welcomes* the continuing initiative exercised by the United Nations Development Programme in maintaining close liaison among the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and in providing assistance to the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories;

10. *Encourages* Non-Self-Governing Territories to take steps to establish and/or strengthen disaster preparedness and management institutions and policies;

11. *Requests* the administering Powers concerned to facilitate the participation of appointed and elected representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories in the relevant meetings and conferences of the specialized agencies

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[57] See E/1995/85.

and other organizations of the United Nations system so that the Territories may benefit from the related activities of those agencies and other organizations;

12. *Recommends* that all Governments intensify their efforts in the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system of which they are members to ensure the full and effective implementation of resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations and, in that connection, accord priority to the question of providing assistance to the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to assist the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in working out appropriate measures for implementing the relevant resolutions of the United Nations and to prepare for submission to the relevant bodies, with the assistance of those agencies and organizations, a report on the action taken in implementation of the relevant resolutions, including the present resolution, since the circulation of his previous report;

14. *Commends* the Economic and Social Council for its debate[58] and its resolution 1995/58 of 28 July 1995 on this issue, and requests it to continue to consider, in consultation with the Special Committee, appropriate measures for coordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in implementing the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;

15. *Requests* the specialized agencies to report periodically to the Secretary-General on the implementation of the present resolution;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit the present resolution to the governing bodies of the appropriate specialized agencies and international institutions associated with the United Nations so that those bodies may take the necessary measures to implement the resolution, and also requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session on the implementation of the present resolution;

17. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine the question and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session.

82nd plenary meeting
6 December 1995

50/35. Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 49/42 of 9 December 1994,

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General on offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories,[59] prepared pursuant to its resolution 845 (IX) of 22 November 1954,

Conscious of the importance of promoting the educational advancement of the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories,

Strongly convinced that the continuation and expansion of offers of scholarships is essential in order to meet the increasing need of students from Non-Self-Governing Territories for educational and training assistance, and considering that students in those Territories should be encouraged to avail themselves of such offers,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States that have made scholarships available to the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories;

3. *Invites* all States to make or continue to make generous offers of study and training facilities to the inhabitants of those Territories that have not yet attained self-government or independence and, wherever possible, to provide travel funds to prospective students;

4. *Urges* the administering Powers to take effective measures to ensure the widespread and continuous dissemination in the Territories under their administration of information relating to offers of study and training facilities made by States and to provide all the necessary facilities to enable students to avail themselves of such offers;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session on the implementation of the present resolution;

6. *Draws the attention* of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to the present resolution.

82nd plenary meeting
6 December 1995

50/36. Question of Western Sahara

The General Assembly,

Having considered in depth the question of Western Sahara,

Reaffirming the inalienable right of all peoples to self-determination and independence, in accordance with the principles set forth in the Charter of the United Nations and in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,

Recalling its resolution 49/44 of 9 December 1994,

Recalling also the agreement in principle given on 30 August 1988 by the Kingdom of Morocco and the Frente Popular para la Liberación de Saguia el-Hamra y de Río de Oro to the proposals of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the current Chairman of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity in the context of their joint mission of good offices,

Recalling further Security Council resolutions 621 (1988) of 20 September 1988, 658 (1990) of 27 June 1990, 690 (1991) of 29 April 1991, 725 (1991) of 31 December 1991, 809 (1993) of 2 March 1993 and 907 (1994) of 29 March 1994 relating to the question of Western Sahara,

Recalling with satisfaction the entry into force of the cease-fire in Western Sahara on 6 September 1991, in accordance with the proposal of the Secretary-General accepted by the two parties,

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[58] See E/1995/SR.57.

[59] A/50/481.

Noting the adoption by the Security Council of resolutions 973 (1995) of 13 January 1995, 995 (1995) of 26 May 1995, 1002 (1995) of 30 June 1995 and 1017 (1995) of 22 September 1995,

Welcoming the mission of the Security Council, which visited Western Sahara and the countries of the region from 3 to 9 June 1995,

Welcoming also the appointment of Mr. Erik Jensen as acting Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Western Sahara,

Concerned that the parties' continuing suspicion and lack of trust have contributed to delays in the implementation of the settlement plan,[60]

Noting that, for progress to be achieved, the two parties must have a vision of the post-referendum period,

Expressing the hope for a rapid resolution of the problems causing delays in the completion of the identification process, as well as the code of conduct, the release of political prisoners, the confinement of troops of the Frente Popular para la Liberación de Saguia el-Hamra y de Río de Oro and the arrangements for the reduction of the Moroccan troops in the territory,

Stressing the importance and usefulness of the resumption of direct talks between the two parties mentioned above in order to create a propitious atmosphere conducive to a speedy and effective implementation of the settlement plan,

Having examined the relevant chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,[61]

Having also examined the report of the Secretary-General,[62]

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General;

2. *Pays tribute* to the Secretary-General and the personnel of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara for their action with a view to settling the question of Western Sahara by the implementation of the settlement plan;

3. *Reiterates its support* for further efforts of the Secretary-General for the organization and supervision by the United Nations, in cooperation with the Organization of African Unity, of a referendum for self-determination of the people of Western Sahara, in conformity with Security Council resolutions 658 (1990) and 690 (1991), by which the Council adopted the settlement plan for Western Sahara;

4. *Reaffirms* that the goal on which all were agreed consists of the holding of a free, fair and impartial referendum for the people of Western Sahara, organized and conducted by the United Nations in cooperation with the Organization of African Unity and without any military or administrative constraints, in conformity with the settlement plan;

5. *Notes with concern* the insufficient progress made towards the fulfilment of the settlement plan, including the identification process, the code of conduct, the release of political prisoners, the confinement of troops of the Frente Popular para la Liberación de Saguia el-Hamra y de Río de Oro and the arrangements for the reduction of the Moroccan troops in the territory;

6. *Calls upon* the Kingdom of Morocco and the Frente Popular para la Liberación de Saguia el-Hamra y de Río de Oro to work with the Secretary-General and the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara in a spirit of genuine cooperation to implement the settlement plan in accordance with the relevant Security Council resolutions;

7. *Takes note* of the decision of the Security Council to review the arrangements for the completion of the identification process on the basis of the report of the Secretary-General requested by the Council in paragraph 4 of its resolution 1017 (1995) and to consider at that time any further necessary measures which might need to be taken to ensure the prompt completion of that process and of all the other aspects relevant to the fulfilment of the settlement plan;

8. *Expresses the hope* that direct talks between the two parties will soon resume in order to create a propitious atmosphere conducive to speedy and effective implementation of the settlement plan;

9. *Requests* the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue to consider the situation in Western Sahara, bearing in mind the ongoing referendum process, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session;

10. *Invites* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

82nd plenary meeting
6 December 1995

50/37. Question of New Caledonia

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of New Caledonia,

Having examined the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to New Caledonia,[61]

Reaffirming the right of peoples to self-determination as enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its resolutions 1514 (XV) and 1541 (XV) of 14 and 15 December 1960, respectively,

Noting the importance of the positive measures being pursued in New Caledonia by the French authorities, in cooperation with all sectors of the population, to promote political, economic and social development in the Territory, including measures in the area of environmental protection and action with respect to drug abuse and trafficking, in order to provide a framework for its peaceful progress to self-determination,

Noting also, in this context, the importance of equitable economic and social development, as well as continued dialogue among the parties involved in New Caledonia in the preparation of the act of self-determination of New Caledonia,

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[60] *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-fifth Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1990*, document S/21360; and ibid., *Forty-sixth Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1991*, document S/22464.

[61] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/50/23), chap. IX.

[62] A/50/504.

Welcoming the strengthening of the process of review of the Matignon Accords[63] through the increased frequency of coordination meetings,

Noting with satisfaction the intensification of contacts between New Caledonia and neighbouring countries of the South Pacific region,

1. *Urges* all the parties involved, in the interest of all the people of New Caledonia and building on the positive outcome of the mid-term review of the Matignon Accords, to maintain their dialogue in a spirit of harmony;

2. *Invites* all the parties involved to continue promoting a framework for the peaceful progress of the Territory towards an act of self-determination in which all options are open and which would safeguard the rights of all New Caledonians according to the letter and the spirit of the Matignon Accords, which are based on the principle that it is for the populations of New Caledonia to choose how to control their destiny;

3. *Welcomes* measures that have been taken to strengthen and diversify the New Caledonian economy in all fields, and encourages further such measures in accordance with the spirit of the Matignon Accords;

4. *Also welcomes* the importance attached by the parties to the Matignon Accords to greater progress in housing, employment, training, education and health care in New Caledonia;

5. *Acknowledges* the contribution of the Melanesian Cultural Centre to the protection of the indigenous culture of New Caledonia;

6. *Notes* the positive initiatives aimed at protecting New Caledonia's natural environment, notably the "Zonéco" operation designed to map and evaluate marine resources within the economic zone of New Caledonia;

7. *Also acknowledges* the close links between New Caledonia and the peoples of the South Pacific and the positive actions being taken by the French and provincial authorities to facilitate the further development of those links, including the development of closer relations with the member countries of the South Pacific Forum;

8. *Welcomes*, in this regard, continuing high-level visits to New Caledonia by delegations from countries of the Pacific region and high-level visits by delegations from New Caledonia to member countries of the South Pacific Forum;

9. *Requests* the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue the examination of this question at its next session and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session.

82nd plenary meeting
6 December 1995

50/38. Questions of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, St. Helena, Tokelau, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands

A

GENERAL

The General Assembly,

Having considered the questions of the Non-Self-Governing Territories of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, St. Helena, Tokelau, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands, hereinafter "the Territories",

Having examined the relevant chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,[64]

Recognizing that 1995 is the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations and that decolonization is one of the proudest achievements of the Organization,

Recalling its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and all resolutions and decisions of the United Nations relating to those Territories, including, in particular, the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session on the individual Territories covered by the present resolution,

Recognizing that the specific characteristics and the sentiments of the people of the Territories require flexible, practical and innovative approaches to the options of self-determination, without any prejudice to territorial size, geographical location, size of population or natural resources,

Recalling its resolution 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960, containing the principles that should guide Member States in determining whether or not an obligation exists to transmit the information called for under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations,

Conscious of the need to ensure the full and speedy implementation of the Declaration in respect of the Territories, in view of the target set by the United Nations to eradicate colonialism by the year 2000,

Noting with appreciation the continuing exemplary cooperation of New Zealand, as administering Power, in the work of the Special Committee, and welcoming its statement that it will abide by the wishes of the population of Tokelau in determining their future political status,

Welcoming the stated position of the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland that it continues to take seriously its obligations under the Charter of the United Nations to develop self-government in the dependent Territories and, in cooperation with the locally elected Governments, to ensure that their constitutional frameworks continue to meet the wishes of the people, and the emphasis that it is ultimately for the peoples of the Territories to decide their future status,

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[63] See A/AC.109/1000, paras. 9-14.

[64] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/50/23), chap. X.

Aware of the special circumstances of the geographical location and economic conditions of each Territory, and bearing in mind the necessity of promoting economic stability and diversifying and strengthening further the economies of the respective Territories as a matter of priority,

Conscious of the particular vulnerability of the small Territories to natural disasters and environmental degradation,

Aware of the usefulness both to the Territories and to the Special Committee of the participation of appointed and elected representatives of the Territories in the work of the Special Committee,

Expressing its conviction that referendums and other forms of popular consultation on the future status of the Non-Self-Governing Territories are an appropriate means of ascertaining the wishes of the peoples in those Territories with regard to their future political status,

Mindful that United Nations visiting missions provide one effective means of ascertaining the situation in the Territories, and considering that the possibility of sending further visiting missions to the Territories at an appropriate time and in consultation with the administering Powers should be kept under review,

Mindful also that some Territories have not had any United Nations visiting mission for a long period of time,

Noting with appreciation the contribution to the development of some Territories by specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme, as well as regional institutions such as the Caribbean Development Bank,

1. *Approves* the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to the Non-Self-Governing Territories of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, St. Helena, Tokelau, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands, hereinafter "the Territories";[64]

2. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the people of the Territories to self-determination, including independence, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

3. *Reaffirms also* that it is ultimately for the people of the Territories themselves to determine freely their future political status in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and in that connection calls upon the administering Powers, in cooperation with the territorial Governments, to facilitate programmes of political education in the Territories in order to foster an awareness among the people of the possibilities open to them in the exercise of their right to self-determination, in conformity with the legitimate political status options clearly defined in resolution 1541 (XV);

4. *Requests* the administering Powers to ascertain expeditiously, by means of popular consultations, the wishes and aspirations of the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories regarding their future political status so that the Special Committee can review the status of the Territories in accordance with the expressed wishes of the peoples of the Territories;

5. *Also requests* the administering Powers to facilitate the dispatch of the United Nations visiting missions to the Non-Self-Governing Territories regarding their future political status so that the Special Committee can review the status of the Territories in accordance with the expressed wishes of the peoples of the Territory;

6. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of the administering Powers under the Charter to promote the economic and social development and to preserve the cultural identity of the Territories, and recommends that priority continue to be given, in consultation with the territorial Governments concerned, to the strengthening and diversification of their respective economies;

7. *Further requests* the administering Powers to take all necessary measures to protect and conserve the environment of the Territories under their administration against any environmental degradation, and requests the specialized agencies concerned to continue to monitor environmental conditions in those Territories;

8. *Calls upon* the administering Powers, in cooperation with the respective territorial Governments, to continue to take all necessary measures to counter problems related to drug trafficking, money laundering and other offences;

9. *Stresses* that the achievement of the declared goal of eradication of colonialism by the year 2000 requires full and constructive cooperation by all parties concerned, and appeals to the administering Powers to continue to give their full support to the Special Committee;

10. *Urges* Member States to contribute to the efforts of the United Nations to usher in the twenty-first century in a world free of colonialism, and calls upon them to continue to give their full support to the Special Committee in its endeavours towards that noble goal;

11. *Invites* the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to initiate or to continue to take all necessary measures to accelerate progress in the social and economic life of the Territories;

12. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue the examination of the question of the small Territories and to recommend to the General Assembly the most suitable steps to be taken to enable the populations of those Territories to exercise their right to self-determination, and to report thereon to the Assembly at its fifty-first session.

82nd plenary meeting
6 December 1995

B

INDIVIDUAL TERRITORIES

1. *American Samoa*

The General Assembly,

Referring to resolution A above,

Noting the fact that a large number of American Samoans have emigrated to the United States of America and are residing there,

Noting also the constitutional developments in the Territory, *Noting further* that the Territory, similar to isolated communities with limited funds, continues to experience lack of adequate medical facilities and other infrastructural requirements,

Recalling the dispatch in 1981 of a United Nations visiting mission to the Territory,

1. *Requests* the administering Power to carry out, at the earliest possible date, a democratic exercise to ascertain the wishes of the people of American Samoa regarding the future status of the Territory;

2. *Calls upon* the administering Power to continue to assist the territorial Government in the economic and social development of the Territory and the development of manpower resources.

II. *Anguilla*

The General Assembly,

Referring to resolution A above,

Noting that general elections were held in March 1994,

Conscious of the commitment of both the Government of Anguilla and the administering Power to a new and closer policy of dialogue and partnership through the Country Policy Plan for 1993-1997,

Aware that the exploitation of deep-sea resources would help reduce the risk of depleting the Territory's own fishing resources as a result of overfishing,

Noting also the need for continued cooperation between the administering Power and the territorial Government in tackling the problems of drug trafficking and money laundering,

Recalling the dispatch in 1984 of a United Nations visiting mission to the Territory,

1. *Requests* the administering Power to carry out, at the earliest possible date, an exercise to ascertain the wishes of the people of Anguilla regarding the future status of the Territory;

2. *Requests* all countries, organizations and United Nations agencies with deep-sea fishing experience to assist the Territory in improving its capacity in exploiting deep-sea fishing.

III. *Bermuda*

The General Assembly,

Referring to resolution A above,

Noting the results of the independence referendum held on 16 August 1995,

Conscious of the different viewpoints of the political parties of the Territory on the future status of the Territory,

Noting also the measures taken by the Government to combat racism and the plan to set up a Commission for Unity and Racial Equality,

Noting further the closure of the Canadian base in 1994 and the announced plans of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America to close their respective air and naval bases in Bermuda in 1995,

Calls upon the administering Power to continue its programmes of socio-economic development.

IV. *British Virgin Islands*

The General Assembly,

Referring to resolution A above,

Noting the completion of the constitutional review in the Territory and the coming into force of the amended Constitution, and noting also the results of the general elections held on 20 February 1995,

Noting also the results of the constitutional review of 1993-1994, which made it clear that a prerequisite to independence must be a constitutionally expressed wish by the people as a result of a referendum,

Taking note of the statement by the Chief Minister of the British Virgin Islands that the Territory was ready for constitutional and political advancement towards full internal self-government and that the administering Power should assist through gradual transfer of power to elected territorial representatives,

Noting that the Territory is emerging as one of the world's leading off-shore financial centres,

Noting also the need for continued cooperation between the administering Power and the territorial Government in countering drug trafficking and money laundering,

1. *Requests* the administering Power to continue the process for facilitating the expression of the will of the people regarding the future status of the Territory;

2. *Also requests* the administering Power, specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and all financial institutions to continue to provide assistance to the Territory for socio-economic development and development of human resources, bearing in mind the vulnerability of the Territory to external factors.

V. *Cayman Islands*

The General Assembly,

Referring to resolution A above,

Noting the constitutional review of 1992-1993, according to which the population expressed the sentiment that the existing relations with the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland should be maintained and that the current status of the Territory should not be altered,

Noting also the actions taken by the territorial Government to implement its localization programme to promote increased participation of the local population in the decision-making process in the Cayman Islands,

Noting with concern the vulnerability of the Territory to drug trafficking and related activities, as well as the measures taken by the authorities to deal with those problems,

Noting further that the Territory has emerged as one of the world's leading off-shore financial centres,

Recalling the dispatch in 1977 of a United Nations visiting mission to the Territory,

1. *Requests* the administering Power to continue to provide the territorial Government with all required expertise to enable it to achieve its socio-economic aims;

2. *Also requests* the administering Power, in consultation with the territorial Government, to continue to facilitate the expansion of the current programme of securing employment for the local population, in particular at the decision-making level;

3. *Requests* the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to continue and increase their programmes of assistance to the Territory with a view to strengthening, developing and diversifying its economy;

4. *Calls upon* the administering Power and the territorial Government to continue to cooperate to counter problems related to money laundering, smuggling of funds and other related crimes, as well as drug trafficking.

VI. *Guam*

The General Assembly,

Referring to resolution A above,

Noting the results of the general elections held in November 1994,

Recalling that, in a referendum held in 1987, the people of Guam endorsed a draft Guam Commonwealth Act that would establish a new framework for relations between the Territory and the administering Power, providing internal self-government for Guam and recognition of the right of the people of Guam to self-determination for the Territory,

Aware of the continued negotiations between the administering Power and the territorial Government on the draft Guam Commonwealth Act and on the future status of the Territory, with particular emphasis on the question of the evolution of the relationship between the United States of America and Guam,

Recalling the statement by the Special Representative of the United States of America for Guam Commonwealth Issues on 12 December 1993 that the Administration hoped to have comments on the Commonwealth Bill before Congress by the end of 1994,

Cognizant that the administering Power continues to implement its programme of transferring surplus federal land to the Government of Guam,

Noting that the people of the Territory have called for reform in the programme of the administering Power with respect to the thorough and expeditious transfer of land property to the people of Guam,

Conscious that immigration into Guam has resulted in the indigenous Chamorros becoming a minority in their homeland,

Aware of the potential for diversifying and developing the economy of Guam through commercial fishing and agriculture and other viable activities,

Recalling the dispatch in 1979 of a United Nations visiting mission to the Territory,

1. *Calls upon* the administering Power and the territorial Government to expedite the early conclusion of the negotiations on the draft Guam Commonwealth Act and on the future status of the Territory;

2. *Requests* the administering Power to continue to assist the elected territorial Government in achieving its political, economic and social goals;

3. *Also requests* the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government, to continue the transfer of land to the people of the Territory and to take the necessary steps to safeguard their property rights;

4. *Further requests* the administering Power to continue to recognize and respect the political rights and the cultural and ethnic identity of the Chamorro people and to take all necessary measures to respond to the concerns of the territorial Government with regard to the immigration issue;

5. *Requests* the administering Power to continue to support appropriate measures by the territorial Government aimed at promoting growth in commercial fishing and agriculture and other viable activities.

VII. *Montserrat*

The General Assembly,

Referring to resolution A above,

Noting the functioning of a democratic process in Montserrat,

Taking note of the reported statement of the Chief Minister that his preference was for independence within a political union with the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States and that self-reliance was more of a priority than independence,

Recalling the dispatch in 1982 of a United Nations visiting mission to the Territory,

1. *Requests* the administering Power to conduct an appropriate exercise, at the earliest possible date, to ascertain the will of the people regarding the future status of the Territory;

2. *Requests* the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, as well as regional and other multilateral financial institutions, to continue their assistance to the Territory in the strengthening, development and diversification of the economy of Montserrat in accordance with its medium- and long-term development plans.

VIII. *Pitcairn*

The General Assembly,

Referring to resolution A above,

Taking into account the unique nature of the Territory in terms of population and area,

Expressing its satisfaction with the continued economic and social advancement of the Territory, as well as with the improvement of its communications with the outside world and its management plan to address conservation issues,

Requests the administering Power to continue its assistance for improvement of the economic, social, educational and other conditions of the population of the Territory.

IX. *St. Helena*

The General Assembly,

Referring to resolution A above,

Aware of the request by the Legislative Council of St. Helena that the administering Power conduct a constitutional review in the Territory,

Taking into account the unique character of the Territory, its population and its natural resources,

Aware of the efforts of the administering Power and the territorial authorities to improve the socio-economic conditions of the population of St. Helena, in particular in the sphere of food production,

1. *Requests* the administering Power to conduct the constitutional review in the Territory, taking into account the wishes of its population;

2. *Also requests* the administering Power and relevant regional and international organizations to continue to support the efforts of the territorial Government to address the socio-economic development of the Territory.

X. *Tokelau*

The General Assembly,

Referring to resolution A above,

Having heard the statements of the representative of New Zealand, the administering Power, and the Special Representative of Tokelau, who conveyed a message from the Council of *Faipule* (joint chairmen of the General *Fono* (Council)) to the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the

Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,

Recalling the solemn declaration on the future status of Tokelau delivered by the *Ulu-o-Tokelau* (highest authority of Tokelau) on 30 July 1994, that an act of self-determination in Tokelau is now under active consideration, together with the constitution of a self-governing Tokelau, and that the present preference of Tokelau is for a status of free association with New Zealand,

Noting the emphasis placed in the solemn declaration on the terms of Tokelau's intended free association relationship with New Zealand, including the expectation that the form of help Tokelau could continue to expect from New Zealand in promoting the well-being of its people, besides its external interests, would be clearly established in the framework of that relationship,

Noting also the Territory's concentrated focus in 1995 on strengthening its national institutions and creating a structure of government to meet modern needs, preparatory to the exercise by the people of Tokelau of their right to self-determination,

Acknowledging the endeavours of Tokelau to be self-reliant to the greatest extent possible,

Noting with appreciation the continuing exemplary co-operation of the administering Power with regard to the work of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to Tokelau and its readiness to permit access by United Nations visiting missions to the Territory,

Recalling the dispatch in 1994 of a United Nations visiting mission to Tokelau,

1. *Notes*, on the basis of statements made by representatives of the administering Power and Tokelau subsequent to the 1994 United Nations visiting mission, that Tokelau is working towards an act of self-determination that would result in Tokelau assuming a status in accordance with the options on future status for Non-Self-Governing Territories contained in Principle VI of the annex to General Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960;

2. *Also notes* the expressed wishes of the people of the Territory indicating a strong preference for a status of free association with New Zealand;

3. *Further notes* the readiness of the people of Tokelau to assume full governmental responsibility and to conduct their own affairs within the framework of a constitution, which is currently being developed;

4. *Welcomes* the assurances of the Government of New Zealand that it will meet its obligations to the United Nations with respect to Tokelau and abide by the freely expressed wishes of the people of Tokelau with regard to their future status;

5. *Invites* the administering Power and United Nations agencies to continue their assistance to the social and economic development of Tokelau.

XI. *Turks and Caicos Islands*

The General Assembly,

Referring to resolution A above,

Noting recent changes to the Constitution of the Territory and the intention of the territorial Government to continue to campaign for further constitutional changes,

Noting also that general elections took place in the Territory on 31 January 1995,

Noting further the policy of the authorities of maintaining a balance between creating a more liberal investment environment and preserving access by the population to economic benefits,

Noting the increase in aid, in particular financial assistance, granted to the territorial Government by the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland,

1. *Requests* the administering Power to conduct, at the earliest possible date, an appropriate exercise to ascertain the will of the people regarding the future status of the Territory;

2. *Calls upon* the administering Power and the relevant regional and international organizations to continue to support the efforts of the territorial Government to address the socio-economic development of the Territory.

XII. *United States Virgin Islands*

The General Assembly,

Referring to resolution A above,

Noting that general elections were held in November 1994,

Noting also that a majority of those who voted in the referendum on the political status of the Territory on 11 October 1993 supported the existing territorial status arrangement with the United States of America,

Noting further the continuing interest of the territorial Government in seeking associate membership in the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States and observer status in the Caribbean Community,

Noting the necessity of further diversifying the Territory's economy,

Noting also that the question of Water Island is still under consideration,

Noting further that in 1993 the territorial Government purchased the assets of the West Indian Company, which had significant property and development interests in the Charlotte Amalie Harbour,

Recalling the dispatch in 1977 of a United Nations visiting mission to the Territory,

1. *Requests* the administering Power to continue to assist the elected territorial Government in achieving its political, economic and social goals;

2. *Also requests* the administering Power to facilitate the participation of the Territory, as appropriate, in various organizations, in particular the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States and the Caribbean Community;

3. *Welcomes* the negotiations between the administering Power and the territorial Government on the question of Water Island.

82nd plenary meeting
6 December 1995

V. RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED ON THE REPORTS OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE[1]

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[1] For the decisions adopted on the reports of the Second Committee, see sect. IX.B.4.

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50/8. Revision of the General Regulations of the World Food Programme and reconstitution of the Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes as the Executive Board of the World Food Programme

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 1714 (XVI) of 19 December 1961, 2095 (XX) of 20 December 1965 and 3404 (XXX) of 28 November 1975, concerning the establishment and continuation of the United Nations/Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations World Food Programme, and its resolution 46/22 of 5 December 1991 on the revision of the General Regulations of the World Food Programme and enlargement of the Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes of the World Food Programme,

Recalling also its resolution 48/162 of 20 December 1993, on further measures for the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields,

Having considered Economic and Social Council decision 1995/227 of 6 June 1995 adopted on the recommendation of the Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes of the World Food Programme concerning the governance of the Programme, the revision of the General Regulations of the World Food Programme, and the reconstitution of the Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes as the Executive Board of the World Food Programme,

1. *Decides*, subject to the concurrence of the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, that the Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes shall be reconstituted as the Executive Board of the World Food Programme, with thirty-six members elected from among the States Members of the United Nations or the States members of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, and that the Economic and Social Council and the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations shall elect eighteen members each, as set forth in paragraph 2 below;

2. *Decides also* that the members of the Executive Board of the World Food Programme shall be elected on an interim basis for four years from among the States included in the lists[2] set out in the Basic Texts of the World Food Programme, in accordance with the following distribution of seats, it being understood that this allocation of seats creates no precedent for the composition of other United Nations bodies of a limited membership:

(*a*) Nine members from the States included in list A, five members to be elected by the Economic and Social Council and four by the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

(*b*) Seven members from the States included in list B, four members to be elected by the Economic and Social Council and three by the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

(*c*) Five members from the States included in list C, two members to be elected by the Economic and Social Council and three by the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

(*d*) Twelve members from the States included in list D, six members to be elected by the Economic and Social Council and six by the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

(*e*) Two members from the States included in list E, one member to be elected by the Economic and Social Council and one by the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

(*f*) One additional member alternating between the States included in lists B and C, starting with list C, to be elected by the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

3. *Decides further* that the above-mentioned distribution of seats shall be reviewed within two years after the establishment of the Executive Board with a view to achieving its final outcome in accordance with paragraphs 25 and 30 and other relevant provisions of General Assembly resolution 48/162; that the review shall be conducted in parallel by the Assembly and the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, taking into account the relevant inputs of the Economic and Social Council and the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations; and that its results shall enter into force on 1 January 2000;

4. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council, at its resumed substantive session of 1995, to elect eighteen members of the Executive Board for a term beginning on 1 January 1996 in accordance with the following distribution and terms of office:

(*a*) Five members from the States included in list A, two for a term of three years, one for a term of two years and two for a term of one year;

(*b*) Four members from the States included in list B, one for a term of three years, two for a term of two years and one for a term of one year;

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[2] Reproduced in E/1995/L.11, annex II.

(*c*) Two members from the States included in list C, one for a term of three years and one for a term of one year;

(*d*) Six members from the States included in list D, two for a period of three years, two for a period of two years and two for a period of one year;

(*e*) One member from the States included in list E, for a period of two years;

5. *Decides* that thereafter all members of the Executive Board shall be elected for a term of three years and requests the Economic and Social Council to make such provisions as ensure that the terms of office of six members elected by the Economic and Social Council and the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations shall expire in each calendar year;

6. *Decides* to approve the revised General Regulations of the World Food Programme contained in annex I of the note by the Secretary-General on the transformation of the Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes of the World Food Programme into an executive board,[3] as endorsed by the Economic and Social Council in its decision 1995/227 and by the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations at its one hundred and eighth session, on 12 June 1995;

7. *Decides*, subject to the concurrence of the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, that the revised General Regulations shall enter into force on 1 January 1996.

46th plenary meeting
1 November 1995

50/91. Global financial integration: challenges and opportunities

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions S-18/3 of 1 May 1990, the annex to which contains the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, and 45/199 of 21 December 1990, the annex to which contains the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, and the Cartagena Commitment,[4] adopted by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development at its eighth session,

Recalling its resolution 49/93 of 19 December 1994 on net flows and transfer of resources between developing and developed countries,

Stressing the importance at the national level in the countries concerned of a favourable climate for private financial flows, sound macroeconomic policies and appropriate functioning of markets,

Recognizing that the international community should continue to give strong support to the efforts of the developing countries to solve their grave economic and social problems as well as to promote a favourable climate for private financial flows through the creation of a favourable international economic environment,

Noting with satisfaction that the process of economic growth, in a number of developing countries, has been positively affected by the recent increase in international private capital flows,

Commending continuing efforts made by developing countries to create a more favourable national framework and stressing that a considerable number of developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, especially in Africa, have not benefited from the aforementioned capital flows,

Expressing concern, within such a context, at the decline in real terms in the past three years in the overall level of official development assistance to developing countries,

Expressing concern also that a significant number of developing countries have become more vulnerable, in the course of liberalizing their external economic and financial regimes, to the volatile fluctuations of private capital flows in international financial markets,

Noting the necessity of promoting the creation of favourable conditions for achieving international stability in private capital flows and of preventing the destabilization arising from swift movements of private capital flows, in order, *inter alia*, to enhance development, in particular of developing countries,

Aware of the role of the International Monetary Fund in the promotion of a stable international financial environment conducive to economic growth, and taking into account the strengthening of the cooperative relationship between the United Nations and the Fund,

1. *Stresses* that global financial integration presents new challenges and opportunities for the international community and that it should constitute a very important element of the dialogue between the United Nations system and the Bretton Woods institutions;

2. *Underscores* the need for encouragement of private flows to all countries, in particular to developing countries, especially long-term flows, while reducing the risks of volatility;

3. *Recognizes* that, in a globalized world, sound fiscal and monetary policy in each country is among the elements essential in preventing crises relating to capital flows;

4. *Emphasizes* the need to explore ways to broaden appropriate enhanced cooperation and, where appropriate, coordination of macroeconomic policy among interested countries, monetary and financial authorities and institutions, so as to enhance preventive consultation arrangements between such institutions as a means of promoting a stable international financial environment conducive to economic growth, particularly in developing countries, taking into account the needs of developing countries as well as situations that may have a significant impact upon the international financial system;

5. *Reiterates* the need for broadening and strengthening the participation of developing countries in the international economic decision-making process;

6. *Welcomes* the steps taken by the International Monetary Fund and recognizes the need for a stronger and central role for the Fund in surveillance of all countries, in a symmetrical manner, in accordance with paragraph 4 of the communiqué of the Interim Committee of the Board of Governors of the Fund, dated 26 April 1995, with regard

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[3] E/1995/14.

[4] See *Proceedings of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, Eighth Session, Report and Annexes* (TD/364/Rev.1) (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.II.D.5), part one, sect. A.

to potential sources of destabilization of capital markets with a view to promoting transparency and stability in international financial markets and promoting economic growth, such surveillance including, among other elements, the regular and timely provision of economic and financial data;

7. *Reaffirms* the objective of promoting greater transparency and openness, including increasing participation of developing countries in the work of the International Monetary Fund, an objective that involves, among other elements, the regular and timely provision of economic and financial data by all Fund members;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly, at its fifty-first session, in cooperation with the Bretton Woods institutions and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, on the implementation of the present resolution.

96th plenary meeting
20 December 1995

50/92. Enhancing international cooperation towards a durable solution to the external debt problem of developing countries

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 41/202 of 8 December 1986, 42/198 of 11 December 1987, 43/198 of 20 December 1988, 44/205 of 22 December 1989, 45/214 of 21 December 1990, 46/148 and 46/151 of 18 December 1991 and 47/198 of 22 December 1992, and reaffirming its resolutions 48/182 of 21 December 1993 and 49/94 of 19 December 1994,

Reaffirming its resolutions 48/165 of 21 December 1993 on renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership and 48/166 of 21 December 1993 on an agenda for development,

Noting the improvement in the debt situation of a number of developing countries since the second half of the 1980s and the contribution that the evolving debt strategy has made to this improvement,

Noting with appreciation the debt-relief measures undertaken by creditor countries both within the framework of the Paris Club and through their cancellation and equivalent relief of bilateral official debt, and welcoming the even more favourable terms of the debt-relief measures recently envisaged by the Paris Club, namely the Naples terms of December 1994, for the poorest and heavily indebted countries, to help them exit from the rescheduling process, thus contributing to the prospects of those countries for resuming growth and development,

Reaffirming the urgent need for effective, equitable, development-oriented and durable solutions to the external debt and debt-servicing problems of developing countries, and to help them exit from the rescheduling process,

Emphasizing the importance for debtor countries of continuing to pursue and intensify their efforts with respect to economic reforms, stabilization and structural adjustment programmes, in order to raise savings and investments, reduce inflation and improve economic efficiency, taking into account the need to address the social aspects of development, including the eradication of poverty, and their individual characteristics, as well as the vulnerability of the poorer strata of their populations,

Stressing the urgent need for further assisting developing countries, in particular the poorest and heavily indebted countries, especially in Africa, in their efforts to improve their debt situation in view of their continued very high level of total debt stock and servicing burdens,

Noting the urgent need for full, constructive and expeditious implementation of various debt-relief measures undertaken by creditor countries both within the framework of the Paris Club and through their cancellations and equivalent relief of bilateral official debt,

Noting also that, owing to uneven developments within the context of the evolving international debt strategy, further progress, including new and concrete measures and innovative approaches, is essential as regards contributing to effective, equitable, development-oriented and durable solutions to the external debt and debt-servicing problems of developing countries, particularly the poorest and heavily indebted countries,

Noting with concern the continuing debt and debt-servicing problems of indebted developing countries as constituting an element adversely affecting their development efforts and economic growth, and stressing the importance of alleviating the onerous debt and debt-service burdens connected with various types of debt of many developing countries, on the basis of an effective, equitable, development-oriented and durable approach and, where appropriate, addressing the full stock of debt of the poorest and most indebted developing countries as a matter of priority,

Noting that multilateral lending operations are excluded from debt restructuring and, in this regard, emphasizing the need for the consideration of comprehensive approaches to assist low-income countries with substantial multilateral debt problems through the flexible implementation of existing instruments and new mechanisms where necessary,

Expressing its concern that, in a number of developing countries that are making continuous and strenuous economic reform efforts, the burden of debt and debt service continues to constitute a major obstacle to the revitalization of the economic growth and development of those countries, in particular the least developed among them,

Noting that those developing countries that have continued, at great cost to themselves, to meet their international debt and debt-service obligations in a timely fashion have done so despite serious external and domestic financial constraints,

Also expressing its concern that debt-relief measures taken so far have not yet fully provided effective, equitable, development-oriented and durable solutions to the outstanding debt and debt-servicing problems of a large number of developing countries, in particular the poorest and heavily indebted countries,

Reaffirming the results, as agreed, of all major United Nations conferences and summits held since the beginning of the 1990s on development, relating to effective, equitable, development-oriented and durable solutions to the external debt and debt-servicing problems of developing countries, as well as the consideration of appropriate measures relating to the mobilization of substantial, new and additional resources to enable developing countries to achieve sustained economic growth and sustainable development, *Noting*, while addressing the external debt and debt-servicing problems of developing countries, the situation in some creditor countries with economies in transition,

Stressing the need for continuing global economic growth and the necessity for a continuing supportive international economic environment with regard to, *inter alia*, terms of trade, commodity prices, improved market access, trade practices, access to technology, exchange rates and international interest rates, and noting the continued need for resources for sustained economic growth and sustainable development of the developing countries,

Taking note of the results of the Eleventh Conference of Heads of State or Government of the Non-Aligned Countries, held at Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, from 18 to 20 October 1995, in particular, chapter III, entitled "Economic issues", of the Final Document of the Conference,[5]

Taking note also of the communiqué of the Summit of the seven major industrialized countries,[6] held at Halifax, Canada, from 15 to 17 June 1995,

Taking note further of the communiqué of the Interim Committee of the Board of Governors of the International Monetary Fund, held in Washington on 8 October 1995,

Taking note of the Ministerial Declaration of the Group of 77[7] adopted at the nineteenth annual meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Group of 77 and China, held in New York on 29 September 1995,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the developing country debt situation as of mid-1995;[8]

2. *Recognizes* that effective, equitable, development-oriented and durable solutions to the external debt and debt-servicing problems of developing countries can contribute substantially to the strengthening of the global economy and to the efforts of developing countries to achieve sustained economic growth and sustainable development;

3. *Also recognizes* that the evolving international debt strategy has to be supplemented by appropriate external financial flows to indebted developing countries;

4. *Emphasizes* the importance for developing countries of continuing their efforts to promote a favourable environment for attracting foreign investment, thereby promoting economic growth and sustainable development, and stresses the need for the international community to promote a conducive external economic environment through, *inter alia*, improved market access, stabilization of exchange rates, effective stewardship of international interest rates and increased resource flows, as well as improved access to technology for the developing countries;

5. *Stresses* the need for finding effective, equitable, development-oriented and durable solutions to the continuing debt and debt-servicing problems of the poorest and most indebted developing countries and the importance of a full, constructive and expeditious implementation of the Naples terms, agreed upon in the Paris Club in December 1994, for such countries, with a view to helping them exit from the rescheduling process on the basis of sound economic policies in those countries, thus contributing to the promotion of their prospects for resuming growth and development;

6. *Recognizes* the efforts of indebted developing countries in fulfilling their commitments on debt servicing despite the incurring of a high social cost and, in this regard, encourages private creditors and, in particular, commercial banks to continue their initiatives and efforts to address the commercial debt problems of middle-income developing countries;

7. *Invites* creditor countries, private banks and multilateral financial institutions, within their prerogatives, to consider continuing the initiatives and efforts to address the commercial debt problems of the least developed countries and the requests for continued mobilization of resources through the Debt-reduction Facility of the International Development Association in order to help eligible least developed countries reduce their commercial debt;

8. *Notes* the high proportion of multilateral debt of a number of developing countries and invites international financial institutions to examine proposals to tackle the problems of those countries with regard to multilateral debt, taking into account the specific situation of each country, while preserving the preferred creditor status of the multilateral financial institutions, in order to ensure that they can continue to provide concessional financing to those developing countries to assist their development;

9. *Reaffirms* the mid-term global review of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s, in particular the appropriate actions in favour of least developed countries concerning their official bilateral, commercial and multilateral debt;

10. *Notes with concern* the continuing burden of debt and debt-service obligations of middle-income countries, including in particular those in Africa, and encourages creditors, including multilateral financial institutions and commercial banks, to continue to address their obligations effectively;

11. *Stresses* the importance of continued concessional Enhanced Structural Adjustment Facility lending operations for low-income countries;

12. *Also stresses* the need for existing facilities to provide debt-relief measures through various debt conversion programmes, where possible, such as debt-equity swaps, debt-for-nature swaps, debt-for-child-development swaps, and other debt-for-development swaps, to be widely implemented so that the countries concerned may be ably assisted in their development efforts, as well as to support measures in favour of the most vulnerable segments of the societies of those countries and to develop techniques of debt conversion applied to social development programmes and projects, in conformity with the priorities of the World Summit for Social Development, held at Copenhagen in March 1995;

13. *Further stresses* the need for, in addition to debt-relief measures that include debt and debt-service reduction, new financial flows to debtor developing countries, and urges creditor countries and multilateral financial institutions to continue to extend concessional financial assistance, particularly to the least developed countries, in order to support the implementation of economic reforms, stabilization and structural adjustment programmes and the eradication of poverty by the developing countries so as to

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[5] A/50/752-S/1995/1035, annex III; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fiftieth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1995*, document S/1995/1035.

[6] A/50/254-S/1995/501, annex I; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fiftieth Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1995*, document S/1995/501.

[7] A/50/518, annex.

[8] A/50/379 and Corr.1.

enable them to extricate themselves from the debt overhang and to assist them in achieving sustained economic growth and sustainable development;

14. *Stresses* the need for the expeditious conclusion of the ongoing work of the International Monetary Fund, in close collaboration with the World Bank, on the steps to address the problems of those low-income countries that are undertaking strong adjustment and reform programmes but whose debt situation, including debt to multilateral institutions, may prove unsustainable, even after debt reduction on the Naples terms, within this context urging donor countries to fulfil promptly their commitments to the tenth replenishment of the International Development Association and to support a significant replenishment through the eleventh replenishment of the Association, and requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session on the outcome of the meeting of the Development Committee scheduled for April 1996;

15. *Notes* the initiative to develop new, parallel financing arrangements, complementary to the General Arrangements to Borrow, with the aim of doubling the resources currently available under the General Arrangements to Borrow;

16. *Recognizes* that the evolving debt strategy must be accompanied by a favourable and supportive international environment, including the full implementation of the results of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations, and the Marrakesh ministerial decisions in favour of the least developed countries and net food-importing developing countries;[9]

17. *Invites* the International Monetary Fund to continue devising concrete policy measures and actions to address the problems faced by indebted developing countries;

18. *Underscores* the need for encouragement of private flows to all countries, in particular developing countries, while reducing the risks of volatility;

19. *Stresses* the urgent need to continue to provide social safety nets to vulnerable groups most adversely affected by the implementation of economic reform programmes in the debtor countries, in particular low-income groups;

20. *Urges* the international community, particularly the creditor countries and multilateral institutions, as well as commercial banks and other lending institutions, when continuing the implementation of various measures aimed at contributing to effective, equitable, development-oriented and durable solutions to the external debt and debt-servicing problems of developing countries, as well as when exploring the need for additional and innovative measures to alleviate substantially the external debt and debt-service burden of developing countries, to ensure that the debt strategy evolved through the years is fully implemented and taken into account;

21. *Recognizes* the urgent need for the international community to assist developing countries, in particular the poorest and heavily indebted countries, in mobilizing the resources needed for their development efforts, and also recognizes that effective, equitable, development-oriented and durable solutions to the external debt and debt-servicing problems of developing countries could contribute towards releasing domestic resources and sustaining their development efforts, in particular those for social development;

22. *Calls upon* the international community, including the relevant institutions, to build upon the momentum gained from the various meetings that have addressed debt issues and to address the external debt and debt-servicing problems of developing countries, particularly those of the least developed countries, in the elaboration of an agenda for development;

23. *Also calls upon* the international community, including the United Nations system, and invites the Bretton Woods institutions, as well as the private sector, to take urgent measures and action for the implementation of the commitments, agreements and decisions of the major United Nations conferences and summits organized since the beginning of the 1990s on development, addressing, *inter alia*, and where appropriate, the question of external debt;

24. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session on the implementation of the present resolution.

96th plenary meeting
20 December 1995

50/93. Sources for the financing of development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, contained in the annex to its resolution S-18/3 of 1 May 1990, and the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, contained in the annex to its resolution 45/199 of 21 December 1990,

Recalling its resolution 45/234 of 21 December 1990 on the implementation of the commitments and policies agreed upon in the Declaration,

Recalling also its resolution 48/187 of 21 December 1993, particularly as it relates to the decision to continue to explore the issue of the financing of development and its potential funding sources,

Decides to consider at the fifty-second session of the General Assembly the convening of an international conference on the financing of development, and requests the Secretary-General to submit to it at its fifty-second session a report on substantive areas, including the consideration of aspects of interrelatedness and coordination necessary as a basis for the full consideration of the issue of financing of development and its potential funding sources.

96th plenary meeting
20 December 1995

50/94. Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 49/107 of 19 December 1994 on the programme for the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa, in which it requested the Secretary-

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[9] See *Legal Instruments Embodying the Results of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations, done at Marrakesh on 15 April 1994* (GATT secretariat publication, Sales No. GATT/1994-7).

General to report to it at its fiftieth session on the implementation of the resolution,

Reaffirming also, in particular, paragraph 2 of its resolution 49/107,

Stressing the renewed urgency for promoting industrialization as a key element in the development of developing countries and the important role of the United Nations system, including the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, which is undergoing a process of reform, and recalling the declarations of the Group of 77,[10] of the Organization of African Unity[11] and of the Non-Aligned Movement,[12] on 29 September 1995, 20 October 1995 and 28 June 1995, respectively, on the essential role of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization in this regard,

Recognizing the need for enhanced cooperation between African countries, the United Nations system and bilateral and multilateral financial institutions, as well as African regional and subregional organizations, in the implementation of the programme for the Second Decade,

Recognizing also the important role of industrialization in promoting sustained economic growth and sustainable development in Africa in the context of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s,[13]

Recognizing further the importance of intercontinental, interregional, regional and subregional cooperation in the implementation of the programme for the Second Decade,

Noting the far-reaching implications of the fundamental developments in the international environment for development cooperation, including the conclusion of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations, and for the implementation of the programme for the Second Decade, as well as the need for concerted national and international action to enable African countries to cope with the challenges posed by, and benefit fully from, the opportunities provided by recent developments in international trade, among other things, and the role of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in this regard,

Emphasizing the continuing need for the mobilization of adequate resources through domestic and international initiatives for the implementation of the programme for the Second Decade, including a favourable climate for foreign direct investment, private sector development, small and medium-sized enterprises and enhanced market access,

Recognizing the need for African countries to use both human and financial resources more effectively in the process of industrialization,

Noting with appreciation the various regional and subregional initiatives and meetings that have taken place, including the Conference of African Ministers of Industry, held at Gaborone from 6 to 8 June 1995, and the contribution made by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization in convening and organizing industrial investment forums aimed at the implementation of the programme for the Second Decade,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the programme for the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa (1993-2002);[14]

2. *Emphasizes* the importance of industrial development cooperation and a positive investment and business climate, at the international, regional, subregional and national levels, in promoting the expansion, diversification and modernization of productive capacities in developing countries;

3. *Requests* the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and the Economic Commission for Africa, as well as the Organization of African Unity and all other partners in the development process, to continue to play an active and more effective role in the implementation of the programme for the Second Decade, bearing in mind the undertakings made in this regard in the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s;

4. *Encourages* African Governments to strengthen national committees for the Second Decade in order to monitor its implementation effectively and to fashion effective policy responses to the challenges and the demands posed and the opportunities offered by changes in the domestic and international environment for industrialization;

5. *Emphasizes* the continuing need for technical and financial assistance from the United Nations system and from bilateral and multilateral sources to complement the efforts of African countries in achieving the objectives of the Second Decade, as well as the need for African countries to enhance cooperation among themselves in the areas of industrial policy, institutional development, human resources development, technology and investments;

6. *Requests* the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to facilitate the exchange of information among African Governments on activities carried out nationally in collaboration with the United Nations system and with the support of bilateral and multilateral partners in connection with the implementation of the programme for the Second Decade as a contribution to subsequent reports of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the programme;

7. *Calls upon* the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the Economic Commission for Africa and the Organization of African Unity to enhance their assistance and coordinate their activities in human resources development for industry, with a view to improving the competitiveness of the industrial sector in Africa in the light of the globalization of production and the growth of related trade, investment and technology flows;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in collaboration with all the relevant organizations, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, to take into account the implementation of the programme for the Second Decade when preparing for the mid-term review, in 1996, of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s;

9. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

96th plenary meeting
20 December 1995

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[10] A/50/518, annex, para. 48.

[11] See A/50/752-S/1995/1035, annex V; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fiftieth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1995, document S/1995/1035.*

[12] See A/50/647, annex II.

[13] Resolution 46/151, annex, sect. II.

[14] A/50/487.

50/95. International trade and development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries,[15] the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade,[16] the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s,[13] the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s,[17] the Cartagena Commitment,[4] Agenda 21,[18] and the various agreements and conferences that provide an overall policy framework for sustained economic growth and sustainable development to address the challenges of the 1990s,

Recalling its resolutions 1995 (XIX) of 30 December 1964, as amended,[19] on the establishment of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development as an organ of the General Assembly, 47/183 of 22 December 1992 on the eighth session of the Conference, and 48/55 of 10 December 1993 and 49/99 of 19 December 1994 on international trade and development,

Welcoming the appointment of the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development,

Noting the progress made by the Conference in the implementation of the outcome of its eighth session, in particular its contribution, within its mandate, to trade and development,

Emphasizing the importance of an open, rule-based, equitable, secure, non-discriminatory, transparent and predictable multilateral trading system,

Emphasizing also that a favourable and conducive international economic and financial environment and a positive investment climate are necessary for the economic growth of the world economy, including the creation of employment, in particular for the sustained economic growth and sustainable development of the developing countries, and emphasizing further that each country is responsible for its own economic policies for development,

Welcoming the successful conclusion of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations at the Ministerial Meeting of the Trade Negotiations Committee, held at Marrakesh, Morocco, from 12 to 15 April 1994, and noting that the Uruguay Round agreements[20] represent a historic achievement, which is expected to contribute to strengthening the world economy and to lead to more trade, investment, employment and income growth throughout the world and in particular to the promotion of sustained economic growth and sustainable development, especially in the developing countries,

Emphasizing the importance of strengthening and attaining a greater universality of the international trading system and welcoming the process directed towards the accession to the World Trade Organization of economies in transition and developing countries that are not members of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, thereby contributing to their rapid and full integration into the multilateral trading system,

Noting the assessment and recommendations adopted at the Mid-term Global Review of the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s, held in New York from 25 September to 6 October 1995,

Noting also that the Uruguay Round agreements should lead, *inter alia*, to a substantial liberalization of international trade, the strengthening of multilateral rules and disciplines to ensure more stability and predictability in trade relations, and the establishing of rules and disciplines in new areas, and noting further the founding of a new institutional framework in the form of the World Trade Organization, with an integrated dispute settlement mechanism which should prevent the application of unilateral actions against international trade rules,

Recognizing that the developing countries have made a major contribution to the success of the Uruguay Round, in particular by accepting the challenges of trade liberalization reforms and measures, and stressing that there is a need for positive efforts designed to ensure that developing countries, especially the least developed among them, secure a share in the growth in international trade commensurate with their economic development needs,

Recognizing also that the subregional and regional economic integration processes, including those among developing countries, which have intensified in recent years, impart substantial dynamism to global trade and enhance trade and development possibilities for all countries, and stressing that, in order to maintain the positive aspects of such integration arrangements and to assure the prevalence of their dynamic growth effects, Member States and groupings should be outward oriented and supportive of the multilateral trading system,

Expressing concern about possible adverse effects for the least developed countries, particularly those in Africa and net food importing developing countries, arising from the implementation of the Uruguay Round agreements, as agreed in the Final Act Embodying the Results of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations,[21] signed at Marrakesh, and recognizing the need to assist those disadvantaged developing countries so that they benefit fully from the implementation of the Uruguay Round,

Welcoming the generous offer of the Government of South Africa to act as host for the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development at its ninth session,

Recognizing the role of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in identifying and analysing new and emerging issues in the international trade agenda in accordance with agreed conclusions 410 (XL) of 29 April 1994 of the Trade and Development Board on the Uruguay Round,[22] agreed conclusions 419 (XLI) of 30 September 1994 of the Board on the Uruguay Round,[23] and decision

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[15] Resolution S-18/3, annex.

[16] Resolution 45/199, annex.

[17] *Report of the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Paris, 3-14 September 1990* (A/CONF.147/18), part one.

[18] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992* (A/CONF.151/26/Rev.1 (Vol. I and Vol. I/Corr.1, Vol. II, Vol. III and Vol. III/Corr.1)) (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

[19] See resolutions 2904 A (XXVII), 31/2 A and B and 34/3.

[20] *Legal Instruments Embodying the Results of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations, done at Marrakesh on 15 April 1994* (GATT secretariat publication, Sales No. GATT/1994-7).

[21] Ibid., vol. 1.

[22] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 15* (A/49/15), vol. I, part one, chap. II, sect. A.

[23] Ibid., vol. II, chap. II, sect. A.

426 (XLII) of 4 May 1995 of the Board,[24] and with the provisional agenda for the ninth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development,[25]

Noting the importance of the inaugural Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization, to be held in Singapore in December 1996,

Stressing the need to promote, facilitate and finance, as appropriate, access to and the transfer of environmentally sound technologies and the corresponding know-how in particular to the developing countries, on favourable terms, including concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed, taking into account the need to protect intellectual property rights, as well as the special needs of the developing countries in the implementation of Agenda 21,

Taking note with satisfaction of the recommendation on trade, environment and sustainable development made by the Commission on Sustainable Development at its third session,[26] and recognizing, in the spirit of a new global partnership for sustainable development, the need for a balanced and integrated approach to environment, trade and development issues,

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Trade and Development Board on the second part of its forty-first session[27] and the first part of its forty-second session,[28] and calls upon all States to take appropriate action to implement the outcome of those sessions;

2. *Also takes note* of the *Trade and Development Report, 1995*,[29] and recognizes the contribution such reports have made to the international trade and development dialogue;

3. *Emphasizes* the importance of follow-up and monitoring of the implementation of the policies and measures contained in the Cartagena Commitment,[4] adopted by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development at its eighth session, held at Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, from 8 to 25 February 1992;

4. *Stresses* the urgent need to continue trade liberalization, including liberalization through a substantial reduction of tariff and other barriers to trade, in particular non-tariff barriers, and the elimination of discriminatory and protectionist practices in international trade relations, and to improve access to the markets of all countries, in particular those of the developed countries, so as to generate sustained economic growth and sustainable development;

5. *Also stresses* the need for the full integration of the economies in transition, as well as other countries, into the world economy, in particular through improved market access for their exports and elimination of discriminatory tariff and non-tariff measures and further liberalization of their trade regimes, including *vis-à-vis* developing countries, and recognizes in this respect the importance of open regional economic integration of interested economies in transition among themselves as well as with developed and/or developing countries in creating new possibilities for expanding trade and investment;

6. *Further stresses* the importance of the timely and full implementation of the agreements contained in the Final Act Embodying the Results of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations and the significance of the entering into force on 1 January 1995 of the Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organization;[30]

7. Emphasizes the importance of the full and continuing implementation of the provisions contained in the Final Act that confer special and differential treatment for developing countries, including decisions giving special attention to the situation of the least developed countries and the net food-importing developing countries;

8. *Notes* the work that has been undertaken jointly and separately by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the World Trade Organization on the impact of the Uruguay Round on developing countries, and looks forward to the integration of this analysis into discussions, including those at ministerial conferences;

9. *Invites* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development at its ninth session to transmit its assessment of challenges and opportunities arising from the Uruguay Round agreements from a development perspective to the Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization;

10. *Emphasizes* the need for continued review and evaluation of the implementation of the Uruguay Round agreements to ensure that the benefits of the evolving multilateral trade system promote sustained economic growth and sustainable development;

11. *Also emphasizes* the significance of the Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization, to be held in Singapore in December 1996, in helping to set the future direction of a rule-based multilateral trading system;

12. *Deplores* any attempt to bypass or undermine multilaterally agreed measures of trade liberalization, through resort to unilateral actions over and above those agreed to in the Uruguay Round, and reaffirms that environmental and social concerns should not be used for protectionist purposes;

13. *Notes* the work of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on trade and environment, in particular the outcome of its Ad Hoc Working Group on Trade, Environment and Development, and also notes the work of the Committee on Trade and Environment of the World Trade Organization;

14. *Also notes* the progress achieved by the joint United Nations Environment Programme/United Nations Conference on Trade and Development programme in the consideration of trade and environment issues, and invites the two organizations to continue their work in accordance with paragraph 59 of chapter I of the report of the Commission on Sustainable Development on its third session;[31]

15. *Reaffirms* the need as a matter of priority to implement the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s, taking into account the assessment and recommendations adopted at the Mid-term Global Review of the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s, held in New York from 25 September to 6 October 1995;

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[24] Ibid., *Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 15* (A/50/15), vol. II.

[25] Ibid., vol. I, chap. I, sect. A.

[26] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1995, Supplement No. 12* (E/1995/32), chap. I, paras. 47-72.

[27] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 15* (A/50/15), vol. I.

[28] Ibid., vol. II.

[29] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.II.D.16.

[30] See *Legal Instruments Embodying the Results of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations, done at Marrakesh on 15 April 1994* (GATT secretariat publication, Sales No. GATT/1994-7), vols. I and 27-31.

[31] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1995, Supplement No. 12* (E/1995/32).

16. *Emphasizes* the urgent need for assistance to African countries, *inter alia*, for evaluation of the impact of the Final Act Embodying the Results of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations and to enable them to identify and implement adaptive measures to enhance their competitiveness;

17. *Requests* preference-giving countries to improve their preferential schemes, and invites the 1996 policy review of the generalized system of preferences to examine possible adaptations to the system, taking into account paragraphs 134 to 140 of the Cartagena Commitment,[4] as well as the results of the Uruguay Round;

18. *Reaffirms* the role that the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development has been playing as the focal point within the United Nations for the integrated treatment of development and interrelated issues in the areas of trade, finance, technology, investment, services and sustainable development and, within this context, stresses that there should be constructive and effective cooperation between the Conference and the World Trade Organization, based on the complementarity of their functions;

19. *Decides* to enable the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to discharge its mandate, thereby making it a more effective and efficient instrument for promoting development;

20. *Recognizes* that the Conference at its ninth session will, *inter alia*, consider its future role, including its relationship with other international institutions, to generate synergies among them and, on the basis of its mandate and with a view to strengthening the United Nations system, the ninth session should enable the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to become a more effective instrument for promoting development;

21. *Invites* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to consider, in close cooperation with other competent organizations, new and emerging issues in the international trade agenda, taking into account the new multilateral trade framework, with a view to fostering international consensus-building among Member States in such areas as trade and environment and competition policy, and, in this regard, recognizes the role of the Conference in preparing the background work and consensus-building on such issues in accordance with agreed conclusions 410 (XL) and 419 (XLI) and decision 426 (XLII) of the Trade and Development Board;

22. *Also invites* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in close cooperation with other competent organizations, to follow developments in the international trading system, in particular their implications for developing countries, and to identify new trading opportunities arising from the implementation of the Uruguay Round agreements so as to provide information and technical support with a view to facilitating the integration of those countries into the system and to assist them in taking full advantage of new trading opportunities, in accordance with agreed conclusions 410 (XL) of the Trade and Development Board;

23. *Requests* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to monitor, analyse and review the development of trade between economies in transition and developing countries and to recommend appropriate measures for its revival, thus contributing to the strengthening of the multilateral trading system;

24. *Welcomes* the measures taken by the secretariats of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the World Trade Organization and invites them to continue to develop their working relationship, mutual cooperation and complementarity;

25. *Emphasizes* the importance to the international trading system of the inclusion in multilateral trade agreements of all countries that are not members of the World Trade Organization, and urges the international community to assist appropriately and adequately those countries that are not members of the World Trade Organization in the steps towards acceding to that Organization;

26. *Requests* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, and invites the World Trade Organization, in accordance with their respective mandates and competence and in close cooperation with other competent United Nations bodies and the regional commissions, to address trade and environment matters comprehensively and to report, through the Commission on Sustainable Development, to the Economic and Social Council and to the General Assembly at its special session in 1997 on the concrete progress achieved on the issue of trade and environment;

27. *Also requests* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to continue its special role in the field of trade and environment, including analytical and empirical work, conceptual and empirical studies, policy analysis, and consensus-building, with a view to ensuring transparency and coherence in making environmental and trade policies mutually supportive, taking into account the need for continuing close cooperation and complementarity in the work of the Conference, the United Nations Environment Programme and the World Trade Organization;

28. *Further requests* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to focus and intensify, where necessary, its technical assistance in the light of the Uruguay Round agreements, in cooperation with relevant international organizations, in particular the International Trade Centre and the World Trade Organization, with the aim of increasing the capacities of developing countries, especially the least developed countries, African countries, and small island developing States, so that they may participate effectively in the international trading system;

29. *Requests* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to continue to provide technical assistance to economies in transition, bearing in mind the needs of developing countries, in particular with regard to their full integration into the multilateral trading system, so as to contribute to the expansion of their external trade, *inter alia*, with developing countries.

96th plenary meeting
20 December 1995

50/96. Economic measures as a means of political and economic coercion against developing countries

The General Assembly,

Recalling the relevant principles set forth in the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming that no State may use or encourage the use of economic, political or any other type of measures to coerce another State in order to obtain from it the subordination of the exercise of its sovereign rights,

Bearing in mind the general principles governing the international trading system and trade policies for development contained in relevant resolutions, rules and provisions of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade and the World Trade Organization,

Reaffirming its resolutions 44/215 of 22 December 1989, 46/210 of 20 December 1991 and 48/168 of 21 December 1993,

Gravely concerned that the use of coercive economic measures adversely affects the economy and development efforts of developing countries and has a general negative impact on international economic cooperation and on worldwide efforts to move towards a non-discriminatory and open trading system,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[32] which contains a summary of the deliberations of the group of experts on coercive economic measures;

2. *Urges* the international community to adopt urgent and effective measures to eliminate the use by some developed countries of unilateral coercive economic measures against developing countries which are not authorized by relevant organs of the United Nations or are inconsistent with the principles contained in the Charter of the United Nations, as a means of forcibly imposing the will of one State on another;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to assign to the Department for Economic and Social Information and Policy Analysis of the Secretariat, in cooperation with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the task of continuing to monitor the imposition of measures of this nature and to prepare possible methodologies or criteria for evaluating the impact of such measures on the affected countries, including the impact on trade and development, for the consideration of Member States;

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session on the implementation of the present resolution.

96th plenary meeting
20 December 1995

50/97. Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of land-locked developing countries

The General Assembly,

Recalling the provisions of its resolutions 44/214 of 22 December 1989, 46/212 of 20 December 1991 and 48/169 of 21 December 1993,

Recognizing that the lack of territorial access to the sea, aggravated by remoteness and isolation from world markets, and prohibitive transit costs and risks impose serious constraints on the overall socio-economic development efforts of the land-locked developing countries,

Recognizing also that sixteen of the land-locked developing countries are also classified by the United Nations as least developed countries and that their geographical situation is an added constraint on their overall ability to cope with the challenges of development,

Recognizing further that most transit countries are themselves developing countries facing serious economic problems, including the lack of adequate infrastructure in the transport sector,

Recalling that measures to deal with the transit problems of land-locked developing countries require closer and even more effective cooperation and collaboration between those countries and their transit neighbours,

Welcoming the entry into force on 16 November 1994 of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea,[33]

Recognizing the important role played by bilateral cooperative arrangements and regional and subregional cooperation and integration in alleviating the transit problems of the land-locked developing countries and improving the transit transport systems in land-locked and transit developing countries,

Recognizing also the importance of continuing the activities of the regional commissions to improve the transit transport infrastructure in the land-locked and transit developing countries,

Noting the importance of strengthening the existing international support measures with a view to addressing further the problems of land-locked developing countries,

1. *Reaffirms* the right of access of land-locked developing countries to and from the sea and freedom of transit through the territory of transit States by all means of transport, in accordance with international law;

2. *Also reaffirms* that transit developing countries, in the exercise of their full sovereignty over their territory, have the right to take all measures necessary to ensure that the rights and facilities provided for land-locked developing countries should in no way infringe upon their legitimate interests;

3. *Calls upon* both the land-locked developing countries and their transit neighbours, in the spirit of South-South cooperation, including bilateral cooperation, to implement measures to strengthen further their cooperative and collaborative efforts in dealing with their transit problems;

4. *Appeals once again* to all States, international organizations and financial institutions to implement, as a matter of urgency and priority, the specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of land-locked developing countries envisaged in the previous resolutions adopted by the General Assembly and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and in the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade[16] and the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, adopted at the eighteenth special session of the General Assembly and contained in the annex to its resolution S-18/3 of 1 May 1990, as well as the relevant provisions of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s[17] and the outcomes of recent major United Nations conferences relevant to land-locked developing countries;

5. *Invites* the land-locked developing countries and their transit neighbours to intensify further their cooperative arrangements for the development of transit infrastructures, institutions and services to facilitate the faster move-

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[32] A/50/439.

[33] *Official Records of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea*, vol. XVII (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.84.V.3), document A/CONF.62/122.

ment of goods in transit, with financial and technical assistance from donors and financial institutions;

6. *Emphasizes* that assistance for the improvement of transit transport facilities and services should be integrated into the overall economic development strategies of the land-locked and transit developing countries and that donor assistance should consequently take into account the requirements for the long-term restructuring of the economies of the land-locked developing countries;

7. *Invites* donor countries and multilateral financial and development institutions to provide land-locked and transit developing countries with appropriate financial and technical assistance in the form of grants or concessional loans for the construction, maintenance and improvement of their transport, storage and other transit-related facilities, including alternative routes and improved communications;

8. *Invites* the United Nations Development Programme further to promote, as appropriate, subregional, regional and interregional projects and programmes and to expand its support in the transport and communications sectors to the land-locked and transit developing countries and its technical cooperation for development geared towards promoting national and collective self-reliance among them;

9. *Takes note* of the report of the Second Meeting of Governmental Experts from Land-locked and Transit Developing Countries and Representatives of Donor Countries and Financial and Development Institutions, held in New York from 19 to 22 June 1995,[34] and endorses the Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation between Land-locked and Transit Developing Countries and the Donor Community contained therein;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in collaboration with the donor countries and institutions, in particular the United Nations Development Programme, the regional commissions and relevant subregional institutions, to organize, within existing resources, specific consultative groups, when requested by the land-locked and transit developing countries concerned, to identify priority areas for action at the national and subregional level and draw up action programmes for the period 1996-1997;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to convene in 1997, within the overall level of resources for the biennium 1996-1997, another meeting of governmental experts from land-locked and transit developing countries and representatives of donor countries and financial and development institutions, including relevant regional and subregional economic organizations and commissions, to review progress in the development of transit systems in the land-locked and transit developing countries, taking into account, *inter alia*, the results of the consultative group meetings referred to in paragraph 10 of the present resolution, with a view to exploring the possibility of formulating specific action-oriented measures and the ongoing study undertaken by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on the implications of the globalization and liberalization of the world economy for the development prospects of land-locked developing countries;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to seek voluntary contributions to ensure participation of representatives from land-locked and transit developing countries in the meeting of governmental experts from land-locked and transit developing countries and representatives of donor countries and financial and development institutions referred to in paragraph 11 of the present resolution;

13. *Notes with appreciation* the contribution of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in formulating international measures to deal with the special problems of the land-locked developing countries, and urges the Conference, *inter alia*, to keep under constant review the evolution of transit transport infrastructure facilities, institutions and services, monitor the implementation of agreed measures, collaborate in all relevant initiatives, including those of the private sector and non-governmental organizations, and serve as a focal point on cross-regional issues of interest to land-locked developing countries;

14. *Invites* the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in consultation with the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to take appropriate measures for the effective implementation of the activities called for in the present resolution and of existing measures in support of land-locked developing countries, within the context of the ninth session of the Conference;

15. *Welcomes* the note by the Secretary-General and the progress report of the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of land-locked developing countries,[35] and requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations, together with the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to prepare a report on the implementation of the present resolution and submit it to the Trade and Development Board and to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session.

96th plenary meeting
20 December 1995

50/98. Ninth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 1995 (XIX) of 30 December 1964, as amended,[19] on the establishment of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development as an organ of the General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 47/183 of 22 December 1992 in which it, *inter alia*, emphasized the importance of the Cartagena Commitment,[4] adopted by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development at its eighth session, held at Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, from 8 to 25 February 1992,

Expressing its satisfaction with the early and unanimous agreement reached by the Trade and Development Board, at the second part of its forty-first session, on the development-oriented provisional agenda for the ninth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development,[25] pursuant to which, under the unifying theme "Promoting growth and sustainable development in a globalizing and liberalizing world economy", the Conference will be addressing the following topics:

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[34] TD/B/42(1)/11-TD/B/LDC/AC.1/7.

[35] A/50/341.

(*a*) Development policies and strategies in an increasingly interdependent world economy in the 1990s and beyond:

(i) Assessment of the development *problématique* in the current context;

(ii) Policies and strategies for the future;

(*b*) Promoting international trade as an instrument for development in the post-Uruguay-Round world;

(*c*) Promoting enterprise development and competitiveness in developing countries and countries in transition;

(*d*) Future work of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in accordance with its mandate: institutional implications,

Considering that the ninth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development is a major intergovernmental economic and development event of 1996 within the United Nations,

Taking note of the recommendation of the Trade and Development Board that the ninth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development should be held at Midrand, Gauteng Province, South Africa, from 27 April to 11 May 1996, preceded by a one-day meeting of senior officials on 26 April 1996,

1. *Welcomes with appreciation* the generous offer made by the Government of South Africa to host the ninth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development;

2. *Decides* to convene the ninth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development at Midrand, Gauteng Province, South Africa, from 27 April to 11 May 1996, to be preceded by a one-day meeting of senior officials at the same place on 26 April 1996;

3. *Stresses* the crucial importance of the ninth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in considering the topics of its provisional agenda,[25] and affirms the need to achieve through the session a constructive and action-oriented outcome;

4. *Calls upon* all Governments to ensure their full participation, at the highest possible political level, in the ninth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development;

5. *Invites* the Secretary-General to establish a fund to which voluntary contributions can be made with a view to contributing to the participation of representatives of the least developed countries in the ninth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development;

6. *Urges* all Governments to take appropriate steps to ensure adequate preparations at the national, regional and interregional levels and within the framework of the permanent machinery of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development for the purpose of facilitating a positive and action-oriented outcome.

96th plenary meeting
20 December 1995

50/99. Commission on Human Settlements

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 32/162 of 19 December 1977, by which it established the Commission on Human Settlements and its secretariat, the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), to serve as the institutional focus for human settlements activities within the United Nations system,

Recalling also its resolution 43/181 of 20 December 1988, in which it designated the Commission on Human Settlements as the United Nations intergovernmental body responsible for coordinating, evaluating and monitoring the implementation of the Global Strategy for Shelter to the Year 2000,[36]

Recalling further its resolution 47/180 of 22 December 1992, by which it decided to convene the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) from 3 to 14 June 1996 and requested the Secretary-General to establish an ad hoc secretariat for the Conference, which should be organizationally part of the Centre,

Noting with satisfaction the positive role played by the Centre in the implementation of the Global Strategy and the human settlement aspects of Agenda 21,[18]

Aware of the fact that two thirds of the entire increase in world population currently occurs in urban areas, so that by the year 2000 almost half of the world population will be living in towns and cities, and noting with concern that high-level urbanization is straining the capacity of Governments, at both the national and the local levels, to mobilize the financial, technical and managerial resources necessary to sustain such human settlements,

1. *Endorses* the report of the Commission on Human Settlements on the work of its fifteenth session (Nairobi, 25 April-1 May 1995),[37] including its resolution 15/1 on the implementation of the Global Strategy for Shelter to the Year 2000,[38] and the report of the Commission on the implementation of the Global Strategy;[39]

2. *Takes note with appreciation* of the contribution of the Commission and of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) to the preparations at the national, regional and global levels for the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), to be held at Istanbul, Turkey, from 3 to 14 June 1996;

3. *Encourages* the Centre to submit its contributions to the preparations for the Conference to the Preparatory Committee for the Conference at its third session, to be held in New York between 5 and 16 February 1996.

96th plenary meeting
20 December 1995

50/100. United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 47/180 of 22 December 1992, in which it decided to convene the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) from 3 to 14 June 1996, and to establish both a preparatory committee and an ad hoc secretariat for the Conference,

Reiterating its gratitude to the Government of Turkey for offering to act as host to the Conference, which is to be held at Istanbul,

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[36] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-third Session, Supplement No. 8, addendum (A/43/8/Add.1).*

[37] Ibid., *Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 8* and corrigenda (A/50/8 and Corr.1 and 2).

[38] Ibid., annex I, sect. A.

[39] Ibid., *Supplement No. 8A* (A/50/8/Add.1).

Noting with satisfaction the progress that has been made so far in the preparations for the Conference, as outlined in the report of the Preparatory Committee for the Conference on its second substantive session[40] and the report of the Secretary-General on preparations for the Conference,[41]

Reaffirming the importance of the principles and concepts set out in the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development[42] and Agenda 21[43] for the purpose of guiding the implementation of the decisions and recommendations of the Conference,

Recalling also its resolution 49/109 of 19 December 1994, in which, *inter alia*, it decided that a third substantive session of the Preparatory Committee would be held at United Nations Headquarters early in 1996 to complete the preparatory work for the Conference,

1. *Endorses* the report of the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) on its second substantive session (Nairobi, 24 April-5 May 1995),[40] which contains, *inter alia*, decision II/1 on the financing of the Conference and its preparatory activities, decision II/3 on the recommendations of the Preparatory Committee on the organization of work of the Conference, including the holding of pre-conference consultations on 1 and 2 June 1996, the establishment of committees and other procedural matters and decision II/4 on the rules of procedure for the Conference;[44]

2. *Decides* that the third session of the Preparatory Committee will be held at United Nations Headquarters from 5 to 16 February 1996;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make the necessary provisions, within existing resources, so that the Preparatory Committee may, if it so decides, establish two working groups to meet in addition to plenary meetings for the duration of the third session;

4. *Notes with interest* the call by the Secretary-General of the United Nations to give the Conference the dimensions of a "city summit", and reaffirms that the Conference should be held at the highest possible level of participation;

5. *Expresses its sincere appreciation* to those States and organizations that have made or pledged financial or other contributions in support of the preparatory activities for the Conference, and requests the Secretary-General of the Conference to continue to make every effort to raise the extrabudgetary resources required for Conference activities and preparations;

6. *Renews its appeal* to all Governments, especially the Governments of developed countries and other Governments in a position to do so, as well as to international and regional financial institutions, to make substantial contributions to the voluntary fund established by the General Assembly in its resolution 47/180 for the purpose of financing preparatory activities for the Conference and supporting developing countries, in particular the least developed among them, in participating fully and effectively in the Conference and its preparatory process;

7. *Encourages* all relevant non-governmental organizations that are interested, especially organizations from developing countries, to participate in and contribute to the Conference and its preparatory process on the basis of the procedures adopted at recent United Nations conferences;

8. *Invites* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session on the implementation of and follow-up to the outcome of the Conference undertaken by the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, including the role played by the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements in that process;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session under the item "Sustainable development and international economic cooperation" a sub-item entitled "United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)".

96th plenary meeting
20 December 1995

50/101. Science and technology for development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the continuing validity of the Vienna Programme of Action on Science and Technology for Development,[45] and recalling the relevant paragraphs of the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries,[15] the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade,[16] the Cartagena Commitment,[41] adopted by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development at its eighth session, the relevant recommendations and decisions adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, particularly those contained in Agenda 21,[43] and the relevant resolutions and decisions adopted by organizations and bodies of the United Nations system concerning science and technology for development,

Bearing in mind the vital contribution of science and technology, including new and emerging technologies, to the promotion of economic growth and development, particularly in developing countries, and stressing the importance of monitoring new developments in science and technology and their implications for society, on production, employment and international competitiveness, especially for developing countries,

Recognizing the importance for developing countries of having access to science and technology so as to enhance their productivity and competitiveness in the world market, and stressing the need to promote, facilitate and finance, as appropriate, access to and transfer of environmentally sound technologies and the corresponding know-how, in particular to the developing countries, on favourable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms as mutually agreed, taking into account the need to protect intellectual property rights as well as the special needs of developing countries,

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[40] Ibid., *Supplement No. 37* (A/50/37).

[41] A/50/519.

[42] See *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992* (A/CONF.151/26/Rev.1 (Vol. I and Vol. I/Corr.1, Vol. II, Vol. III and Vol. III/Corr.1)) (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex I.

[43] Ibid., annex II.

[44] As amended in A/C.2/50/9 and Corr.1.

[45] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development, Vienna, 20-31 August 1979* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.79.I.21 and corrigenda), chap. VII.

Stressing the primary responsibility of all countries for their own science and technology policies, and the need to further promote endogenous capacity-building in science and technology in developing countries so as to enable them to participate in, benefit from and contribute to the rapid advances in science and technology,

Recognizing that information technologies are important requisites for planning, development and decision-making in science and technology, and recognizing also their far-reaching implications for society,

Recognizing the importance of developing countries' own efforts in the field of science and technology for development,

Reaffirming that the United Nations should play an important role in the promotion of cooperation in science and technology, and in the enhancement of support and assistance to developing countries in their efforts to achieve the objectives set forth by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in this regard,

Recognizing also the work of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development in promoting the developing countries' endogenous capacity in science and technology, and recognizing its unique function as a global forum for the examination of science and technology questions, for the improvement of the understanding of science and technology policies for development and for the formulation of recommendations and guidelines on science and technology matters within the United Nations system, all in relation to development,

Recognizing further the role of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in science and technology for development, as reaffirmed in General Assembly resolution 48/179 of 21 December 1993,

Recognizing the need for adequate resources to be devoted to fostering science and technology for development,

Recognizing also the special needs and requirements of developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, especially those in Africa,

Recognizing further the relevant problems of countries with economies in transition in the sphere of the transformation and development of their scientific and technological potentials,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General[46] on the implementation of programme 17, science and technology for development, of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997,

1. *Reaffirms* the relevant resolutions and decisions adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1995 on the basis of the report of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development on its second session;[47]

2. *Reaffirms* that capacity-building in science and technology in developing countries should remain a priority issue in the United Nations agenda, and urges that international cooperation efforts be intensified and strengthened towards developing countries' endogenous capacity-building in science and technology, including their capacity to utilize scientific and technological developments from abroad and to adapt them to suit local conditions;

3. *Calls upon* the international community to meet all the objectives as reaffirmed in chapter 34 of Agenda 21,[18] in particular those dealing with effective access to and transfer of environmentally sound technologies, including new and emerging technologies and publicly owned technologies, to developing countries on favourable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed, taking into account the need to protect intellectual property rights as well as the special needs of developing countries, so as to contribute to enabling those developing countries to meet their development-related challenges;

4. *Stresses* that it is important for developing countries to adopt and implement their own science and technology policies that support the national effort to achieve sustained economic growth and sustainable development in the light of their respective national conditions, needs, priorities and objectives;

5. *Also stresses* the need to strengthen the important role of the United Nations in the field of science and technology, particularly through effective policy guidance and better coordination, including in international cooperation in technology assessment, monitoring and forecasting;

6. *Recognizes* the role of the private sector in science and technology for development, in particular in the transfer and development of science and technology capabilities;

7. *Also recognizes* the role of Governments in science and technology for development, in particular in providing appropriate regulatory frameworks and incentives for the development of science and technology capabilities;

8. *Requests* the relevant organizations, funds and programmes of the United Nations, in the spirit of coordination that should prevail in the activities of the United Nations system in the field of science and technology for development, to work in a coordinated manner to develop a catalogue of proved technologies that will enable developing countries to make effective choices from among state-of-the-art technologies;

9. *Calls upon* the Commission on Science and Technology for Development and the Commission on Sustainable Development to interact more effectively, through the Economic and Social Council, in carrying out their respective mandates;

10. *Calls upon* the supporting secretariats of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development and the Commission on Sustainable Development to improve their interaction;

11. *Takes note* of the developments at the Consultative Meeting on a Coalition of Resources for Science and Technology for Development and the recommendation of the Economic and Social Council that the Commission on Science and Technology for Development provide a forum for exchanging views and interaction among partners of different networks and coordination schemes;

12. *Reaffirms* the need for adequate financial resources on a continuous and assured basis to foster science and technology for development, in particular to promote endogenous capacity-building in developing countries in accordance with their priorities;

13. *Notes with appreciation* the measures taken by the

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[46] A/50/649.

[47] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1995, Supplement No. 11* (E/1995/31).

Secretary-General in response to paragraph 6 of General Assembly resolution 48/179 and invites him to continue to take all necessary measures, including to explore the possibility of organizing a more effective coalition of resources within the United Nations development system, multilateral financial institutions, regional development banks and bilateral funding agencies to ensure the full implementation of programme 17, science and technology for development, of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997 and the activities planned for 1996-1997 in the field of science and technology for development, in accordance with specific mandates provided for in the relevant Assembly resolutions;

14. *Takes note* that enhanced cooperation could help focus the activities of the United Nations system in the field of science and technology for development for greater impact;

15. *Recognizes* the importance of cooperation among developing countries in the field of science and technology, building on their complementarities, and the need for further advancing such cooperation through the establishment and/or the strengthening of national technology and information centres in developing countries and their networking on regional, subregional, interregional and global levels to promote technology research, training and dissemination as well as joint projects in developing countries, and urges the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system and other relevant international, regional and subregional organizations and programmes to provide continued and enhanced support, through technical assistance and financing for such efforts;

16. *Requests* the relevant organizations, funds and programmes of the United Nations system to continue to promote the development of effective and mutually beneficial technological cooperation between countries with economies in transition and all other countries, including in the area of new and emerging technologies;

17. *Notes* the endorsement by the Economic and Social Council of the decision of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development to select information technologies as the main substantive theme of its work during the inter-sessional period 1995-1997 and to set up panels and/or working groups to analyse, elaborate and make recommendations on issues pertaining to information technologies and their implications for development;

18. *Takes note* of the decision of the Economic and Social Council to invite the Commission on Science and Technology for Development to consider ways and means for the formulation of a common vision regarding the future contribution of science and technology for development, taking advantage of the twentieth anniversary of the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development, held at Vienna in 1979;

19. *Stresses* the potentially important role that the United Nations Fund for Science and Technology for Development should play in enhancing endogenous capacity-building in science and technology in developing countries, and calls on all countries in a position to do so to contribute generously to the Fund;

20. *Reaffirms* the need for Governments and regional and international bodies to take measures to ensure that women have equal access to and equal opportunity to participate in scientific and technological areas, especially in areas where they are not represented or are underrepresented;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session on progress in the implementation of the present resolution.

96th plenary meeting
20 December 1995

50/102. United Nations system support for science and technology in Africa

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the Vienna Programme of Action on Science and Technology for Development,[45] adopted by the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development and subsequently endorsed and reaffirmed by the General Assembly,

Reaffirming also its resolution 46/151 of 18 December 1991, the annex to which contains the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s, having as its priority objectives the accelerated transformation, integration, diversification and growth of the African economies, in order to strengthen them within the world economy,

Having considered the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "United Nations system support for science and technology in Africa",[48] and the conclusions and recommendations contained therein,

Recognizing the crucial significance of science and technology, including the related information technologies, for planning, development and decision-making in science and technology and the promotion of endogenous capacity-building in science and technology in the process of growth and development,

Recognizing also that the fundamental objective of science and technology to meet basic needs should be to create conditions that increase the ability of people living in poverty to gain access to, fully understand, integrate, use and generate knowledge and technology creatively in order to satisfy their basic needs,

Stressing the importance of South-South cooperation in the promotion of science and technology in Africa in the context of, *inter alia*, modalities for economic and technical cooperation among developing countries,

Noting the efforts being undertaken by African leaders within the Presidential Forum on the Management of Science and Technology for Development in Africa, 1995-2005,

Taking note of the Cairo Agenda for Action, adopted on 28 June 1995 by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its thirty-first ordinary session,[49]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "United Nations system support for science and technology in Africa",[48] and the comments of the Administrative Committee on Coordination thereon;[50]

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to promote and implement activities in support of science and technology in Africa in the context of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s;

3. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation

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[48] A/50/125-E/1995/19, annex.

[49] See A/50/647, annex II, resolution AHG/Res.236 (XXXI).

[50] A/50/125/Add.1-E/1995/19/Add.1, annex.

with the organizations, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, to make concrete proposals on activities, in the context of the mid-term review of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s, to be carried out in 1996, aimed at strengthening United Nations system support for science and technology in Africa, taking into account the views and recommendations contained in the reports mentioned above and other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and to report thereon to the Assembly at its fifty-first session.

96th plenary meeting
20 December 1995

50/103. Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 45/206 of 21 December 1990, in which it endorsed the Paris Declaration and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s,[51] and 49/98 of 19 December 1994, in which it decided to convene the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting on the Mid-term Global Review of the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s,

Reaffirming the Paris Declaration and the Programme of Action, the prime objective of which is to arrest the further deterioration in the socio-economic situation of the least developed countries, to reactivate and accelerate growth and development in those countries and, in the process, to set them on the path of sustained economic growth and sustainable development,

Expressing serious concern that the least developed countries as a group have not been able to achieve many of the objectives of the Programme of Action and that their overall socio-economic situation has continued to deteriorate,

Noting with concern the reduced flow of development resources to the least developed countries, the resulting need to accord them priority in the allocation of concessional resources and their continued marginalization in world trade, as well as the fact that many least developed countries face serious debt problems and more than half are considered debt-distressed,

Taking note of agreed conclusions 423 (XLI) of 31 March 1995 of the Trade and Development Board[52] on the annual review of progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s, which was underpinned by *The Least Developed Countries 1995 Report*,[53]

Taking note of the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting on the Mid-term Global Review of the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s,[54]

1. *Reaffirms* the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s[51] as the basis for continuing cooperation between the least developed countries, which have the responsibility for their own development, and their development partners, based on shared responsibility and strengthened partnership, as well as its commitment to the full and effective implementation of the Programme of Action;

2. *Endorses* the measures and recommendations contained in the report of the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting on the Mid-term Global Review of the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s,[55] annexed to the present resolution, which are designed to ensure the full implementation of the Programme of Action over the second half of the decade;

3. *Calls upon* all Governments, international and multilateral organizations, financial institutions and development funds, the organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system, and all other organizations concerned to take immediate, concrete and adequate steps to implement the Programme of Action, taking full account of the measures and recommendations of the mid-term global review so as to ensure sustained economic growth and sustainable development in the least developed countries and to enable them to participate in and benefit from the process of globalization and liberalization;

4. *Notes* that many least developed countries, for their part, have been implementing courageous and far-reaching policy reforms and adjustment measures in line with the Programme of Action, and in that regard emphasizes the need for national policies and measures aimed at establishing macroeconomic stability by rationalizing public expenditure and adopting sound monetary and fiscal policies so as to ensure a dynamic private sector by such means as providing a sound legal framework and improving human resources development, living standards, health and the status of women, and calls upon the international community to provide adequate support thereto;

5. *Strongly urges* all donor countries to implement fully and expeditiously their commitments in all relevant areas, including the agreed menu of aid targets and commitments as set out in the Programme of Action and support to reinforce structural adjustment reform, as well as the measures agreed upon at the mid-term global review so as to provide a significant and substantial increase in the aggregate level of external support for the least developed countries, keeping in mind the increased needs of those countries as well as the requirements of the countries added to the list of the least developed countries following the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries;

6. *Stresses* the critical importance of providing multilateral assistance for the least developed countries, in the form of grant-based multilateral programmes, and in that regard calls attention to the need to ensure adequate replenishment of the International Development Association and the soft-term windows of the regional development banks;

7. *Emphasizes* the serious debt problems of the least developed countries, which necessitate strengthened efforts to formulate an international debt strategy that should include concrete measures to alleviate the debt burden and

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[51] See *Report of the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Paris, 3-14 September 1990* (A/CONF.147/18), part one.

[52] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 15* (A/50/15), chap. I, sect. B.

[53] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.II.D.2.

[54] See A/50/745. See also A/50/746.

[55] A/50/745, parts one to three.

increased concessional financing in support of appropriate economic policy measures, which will be critical to the revitalization of the growth and development of the least developed countries, and encourages the Bretton Woods institutions to expedite the ongoing consideration of ways to address the issue of multilateral debt, including those concerning the least developed countries;

8. *Reiterates* that increased opportunities for trade can help reactivate economic growth in the least developed countries, calls for significantly improved market access for their products and emphasizes the importance of applying effectively the provisions of the Final Act Embodying the Results of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations,[9] and further emphasizes in that context the importance of taking concrete action, as appropriate, to fully and expeditiously implement the Marrakesh Declaration[9] as it relates to the least developed countries and the ministerial decision on measures in favour of the least developed countries, as well as the measures agreed to at the mid-term global review, with a view to enabling the least developed countries to maximize their benefit from the Final Act and to cope with any adverse effects arising therefrom;

9. *Also reiterates* the importance attached to the implementation of the ministerial decision on measures concerning possible negative effects of reform programmes on the least developed countries and net food-importing developing countries;

10. *Reaffirms* the importance of the follow-up and monitoring mechanisms for implementation of the Programme of Action at the national, regional and global levels as crucial to the implementation of the Programme of Action;

11. *Recalls* that in its resolution 49/98, it invited the Secretary-General to make recommendations to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session, with a view to ensuring that the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development had sufficient capacity to undertake an effective follow-up of the outcome of the mid-term global review and to follow up the conclusions and recommendations relating to the least developed countries adopted by major United Nations conferences, and in this regard takes note of the relevant proposals of the Secretary-General related to the programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997;

12. *Emphasizes* the importance of the annual reviews by the Trade and Development Board of progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action and the pressing need for enabling representatives of the least developed countries to participate in such annual reviews, and to that end requests the Secretary-General to defray the cost of participation of representatives of least developed countries by mobilizing extrabudgetary resources for that purpose and by reallocating existing resources of the regular budget, if required;

13. *Recalls* that at the end of the decade, a global review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action will be carried out, in accordance with paragraph 140 of the Programme of Action[52] and paragraph 7 (*c*) of General Assembly resolution 45/206 regarding the consideration by the Assembly at its fifty-second session of the holding of a third United Nations conference on the least developed countries;

14. *Calls upon* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development at its ninth session to take into account the outcome of the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting on the Mid-term Global Review of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

96th plenary meeting
20 December 1995

ANNEX

Mid-term Global Review of Progress towards the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s

PART ONE

DECLARATION OF THE HIGH-LEVEL INTERGOVERNMENTAL MEETING ON THE MID-TERM GLOBAL REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME OF ACTION FOR THE LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES FOR THE 1990S

The Meeting

Declares, in particular, the following:

(*a*) The participants in the Meeting have undertaken an assessment of progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action and agreed on concrete recommendations to ensure that the Programme is more effectively implemented throughout the remaining part of the decade;

(*b*) They reaffirmed their commitment to work cooperatively towards achieving the prime objective of the Programme of Action which is to arrest the further deterioration in the socio-economic situation of the least developed countries, to reactivate and accelerate growth and development in these countries and, in the process, to set them on the path of economic growth and sustainable development based on shared responsibility and strengthened partnership;

(*c*) The least developed countries as a group have not been able to meet many of the objectives of the Programme of Action and their overall socio-economic situation has continued to deteriorate. This deeply concerned the participants at the Meeting. At the domestic level, civil strife and recurrent natural disasters in some of the least developed countries and the resulting social economic burdens, macroeconomic imbalances and poor performance of the productive sectors, *inter alia* the lack of adequate physical and institutional infrastructures, have contributed to this deterioration. Persistent and serious debt and debt-servicing problems, very low levels of exports, and a declining share in world trade and the insufficiency of external finance, have had unfavourable consequences on their growth and development;

(*d*) However, the least developed countries have continued to implement, under many difficulties, wide-ranging and far-reaching reforms. In some countries these efforts, complemented by a favourable external climate, have shown encouraging results. Many development partners have provided increased support to least developed countries, although the commitment to provide them with a significant and substantial increase in the aggregate level of external support has not happened;

(*e*) The participants are determined to pursue their efforts to implement the measures and recommendations agreed at the present Meeting. They are confident that the success of these efforts would lead to a reactivation and acceleration of growth and development in the least developed countries, and enable them to participate in and benefit from the processes of globalization and liberalization;

(*f*) They call upon all Governments, the United Nations system, regional and subregional organizations, and the competent non-governmental organizations, to combine their efforts in implementing the measures and recommendations agreed upon by the present Meeting so as to ensure the success of the Programme of Action;

(*g*) They firmly believe that, given political will on the part of the least developed countries, which have the primary responsibility for their development, and the support of the international community, the least developed countries will be able to enter the next century with better prospects for their peoples.

PART TWO

ASSESSMENT OF PROGRESS IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME OF ACTION FOR THE LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES FOR THE 1990S AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL, AND PROGRESS IN INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT MEASURES

INTRODUCTION

1. The Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, held in Paris in 1990, adopted the Paris Declaration and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s. The basic principles and aims of the Programme of Action are as valid today as when they were drawn up. The prime objective of the Programme of Action is to arrest the further deterioration in the socio-economic situation of least developed countries (LDCs), to reactivate and accelerate growth and development in these countries and, in the process, to set them on the path of sustained growth and development. The policies and measures in support of these objectives set out in the Programme of Action revolve around the following major areas: establishment of a macroeconomic policy framework conducive to sustained economic growth and long-term development; development and mobilization of human resources; development, expansion and modernization of the productive base; reversing the trend towards environmental degradation; promotion of an integrated policy of rural development aimed at increasing food production, enhancing rural income and enhancing non-agricultural sector activities; and the provision of adequate external support.

2. It was noted with great concern that only one country, i.e. Botswana, has graduated from the group of LDCs since the early 1970s. At the same time the number of LDCs has increased from 41 at the time of the Paris Conference in September 1990 to 48 countries at present, without a proportionate increase in support measures despite national and international efforts.

I. MAIN DEVELOPMENTS DURING THE EARLY 1990S

3. Despite vigorous efforts by LDCs to implement economic reforms as envisaged by the Programme of Action, the LDCs as a group have not been able to meet many of the objectives of the Programme of Action and their overall socio-economic situation has continued to deteriorate. Several factors, both domestic and external, have contributed to the overall socio-economic deterioration in the LDCs. The domestic factors include: civil strife and recurrent natural disasters in some LDCs and the resulting social and economic burdens, political instability, macroeconomic imbalances, manifested in large fiscal and balance-of-payments deficits, in many cases the unfavourable short-term impact of macroeconomic policy adjustments on specific areas, in particular the most disadvantaged and vulnerable sections of the population, and poor performance of the productive sectors including lack of adequate physical infrastructure. The external factors include: persistent debt and debt-servicing problems; the decline in the share of LDCs in world trade and their continued marginalization; the inadequacy of external finance; and the emergence of new claimants for aid.

4. According to United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) statistics, the real GDP growth rate of the LDCs averaged only 1.7 per cent per annum during the first four years of the 1990s, having declined from the growth rate of 2.3 per cent achieved during the 1980s. Despite the recovery in the world economy, the situation in the LDCs continues to be precarious, although a few of them made limited progress. With population growing at an average annual rate of 2.9 per cent, GDP per capita suffered an annual 1.1 per cent decline, thus threatening to worsen the already precarious income and consumption levels, as well as to widen the savings-investment gap in these countries.

5. While the slow-down in economic growth rates was common to both Asian and African LDCs, the former, which benefited, *inter alia*, from a relatively favourable regional environment, attained an average per capita output growth of 1.4 per cent in the 1990s, as compared with a 2.1 per cent per annum fall suffered by the latter. There have also been significant inter-country variations in growth performance. Thus, it is encouraging to note that, despite the poor performance for the group as a whole, nearly one quarter of LDCs were able to attain positive per capita income gains in the early 1990s. A strong expansion of agricultural production, internal stability, strong government commitments, a sound political and regulatory framework for development, complemented by significant external support, among other factors, have contributed to raising economic growth rates.

6. The worsening of socio-economic conditions in many LDCs in the 1990s has increasingly been translated into a marked deterioration in human welfare as reflected in reduced caloric intakes, increased mortality and morbidity, the re-emergence and spread of diseases, lower school enrolment, further marginalization of the weakest members of society, and other signals of acute social distress, as further reviewed below in section V.

7. Overall, the external environment facing LDCs has remained difficult. As these countries moved into the 1990s, despite an increase in exports of manufactured goods, their share in world exports and imports fell by more than three eighths and one third from the already low levels of 0.7 per cent and 1.0 per cent respectively in 1980. Despite vigorous efforts to diversify the largely commodity-based composition of their exports, the LDCs' economies continued to be vulnerable to vicissitudes and instability in commodity markets. Official development assistance (ODA), on which LDCs depend principally for their external financing, registered a decline over the early 1990s, and the aid outlook remains uncertain. Although a large number of LDCs have adopted national regulatory frameworks conducive to foreign investment, they have not yet attracted significant foreign direct investment (FDI). Despite measures adopted to alleviate their external debt burden, this burden continued to be unsustainably high for many LDCs and seriously compromises their adjustment and development efforts.

8. Some developing countries are also important development partners of LDCs. They have technical assistance and training programmes from which the latter have benefited. The potential for expanded economic and technical cooperation between LDCs and other developing countries merits further exploration and support by the international community, especially in view of the new opportunities emerging with the dynamic growth experience of a number of those other developing countries. As a means of maximizing the potential for such South-South cooperation, triangular funding arrangements which include the active contribution of developed countries and relevant international organizations can be initiated.

9. Several LDCs have been taking a number of measures to promote trade with neighbouring countries. For example, a number of African LDCs, especially land-locked ones, have sought to establish some form of free trade area or customs union at the subregional level. However, the establishment of such subregional arrangements has encountered a number of obstacles which have limited their effectiveness.

10. In sum, therefore, the requisite progress has not been made in most LDCs during the first half of the 1990s in realizing the overall objective of the Programme of Action, although some progress has been recorded in a number of LDCs as a result of the implementation of appropriate policies. Furthermore, the ongoing processes of economic globalization and liberalization are likely to have profound consequences for the future development of the LDCs. These processes, which offer great opportunities for growth and development, also entail risks of instability and marginalization. LDCs as a whole have made limited progress in overcoming structural constraints, infrastructural insufficiencies, debt overhang, promoting and diversifying the enterprise and export sectors, attracting foreign investment and creating a sufficient technological base. In this context, most of the LDCs will face globalization and liberalization from the situation of a constrained environment.

II. THE POLICY REFORM PROCESS

11. In recent years, most LDCs have embarked on a process of structural adjustment and wide-ranging reforms, often under internationally agreed frameworks for structural and sectoral adjustment. Important areas of policy focus have been towards coping with fiscal and balance-of-payments deficits, improved mobilization and use of domestic resources, through tax reforms, improving the effectiveness of the public sector and providing greater opportunities for the private sector. LDCs have also initiated reforms in critical areas such as population, education, health, food security and trade policy.

12. There are, however, some cases where the pace and scope of these reforms contrast with the limited progress achieved. In particular, despite success in securing short-term macroeconomic stability, certain situations sometimes existed where the reforms appear neither to have helped in lifting structural constraints facing the economies

of LDCs nor to have improved supply capacity and export diversification. Thus, while it was recognized that the reform process sometimes could not guarantee immediate results, it was emphasized that the efforts of LDCs provided a context in which, over the longer term, growth and structural transformation could reinforce each other under more favourable circumstances.

13. The experience of LDCs points towards a number of factors which determined the success or otherwise of reform measures. Prime among them has been government commitment to reforms, the appropriateness of national policy contents, sequencing of reforms and the level of external financial support to underpin reform efforts. Problems inherent in policy design, particularly the neglect of structural conditions and endowment-related considerations, retarded and even reversed the momentum of reforms. Inadequate domestic and external resource mobilization has been a particularly critical constraint for development in the LDCs.

14. The socio-economic difficulties of most LDCs have been further exacerbated by a specific set of environmental problems, such as land degradation and erosion, drought and desertification, which impair prospects for their development. These environmental problems have been aggravated in LDCs by a number of complex and interrelated factors, which include poverty and poverty-linked population pressures and cross-border refugee movements resulting from man-made and natural disasters. A noteworthy development has been that LDCs have demonstrated growing awareness of environmental issues and problems and many have implemented policies, strategies and institutional mechanisms to deal with them. The special situation and needs of the LDCs should be given special priority. International cooperation for sustainable development should be strengthened in order to support and complement the efforts of the LDCs. In particular, new and additional financial resources from all sources, both public and private, that are both adequate and predictable are necessary for environmentally sound development programmes and projects. However, adequate international support is needed to facilitate the transition from emergency relief to rehabilitation and development, and in particular in the context of activities under the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction and the promotion of national capacity-building to help prevent and mitigate future emergencies.

15. In many LDCs, it is encouraging to note that far-reaching changes in the system of governance, ranging from free elections to democratic constitutional reforms, have ushered in new possibilities for establishing more participatory and transparent systems of government. Generally, LDCs which achieved a revival of economic growth were those where greater progress has been made in securing popular participation and respect of human rights. In a number of LDCs, the consequences of man-made and other disasters have continued to drain resources, hampering overall long-term development. In some of these LDCs, armed conflict has often resulted in large-scale displacement of population, food emergencies and the unleashing of other destabilizing forces. The developmental task of Governments in meeting the socio-economic challenges posed became highly constrained under these circumstances. Besides destabilization caused by the presence of a large number of refugees, some LDCs have been obliged to provide asylum, with far-reaching implications for the budget, the environment impacts, other resource needs and related security problems which require urgent concrete international support for those countries hosting the refugees. The LDCs undergoing fundamental political, economic and social transformation, in the process of consolidating peace and democracy require the support of the international community.

III. DEVELOPMENTS IN THE PRODUCTIVE SECTORS

16. During the early 1990s, agriculture in most LDCs has been characterized by lags in production growth relative to that of the population, continued declines in terms of trade and loss of market shares for traditional agricultural commodities. Agricultural production in LDCs fell by 1.1 per cent per annum in per capita terms during the period 1990-1993. Several LDCs responded to the continued poor performance of the sector by introducing reform measures, particularly reforming producer price incentives and marketing systems and the provision of essential agricultural inputs. While the overall thrust of these measures has been the removal of barriers to the private sector in agriculture, they have been unable to provide support services. A particularly disquieting trend in many LDCs is the growing incidence of man-made and recurrent natural disasters such as drought, flood, and devastating cyclones, which are the most important causes of food insecurity in many African LDCs. The situation has been further exacerbated by declines in food output and limited capacity to offset shortfalls through imports.

17. Notwithstanding the wide variations in manufacturing growth rates among LDCs, the performance of the manufacturing sector on the whole has weakened in recent years, manufacturing activities have remained relatively undiversified, and the utilization of capacity and resources has been low. The sector growth rate decelerated to 1.4 per cent per annum during the early 1990s, from 2.1 per cent per annum in the 1980s. While some one third of LDCs maintained a positive growth of manufacturing value added (MVA) in the 1980s and early 1990s, most LDCs experienced stagnation and even declines in manufacturing output. The response of the LDCs to deteriorating manufacturing performance has been through adjustments of macroeconomic policies and instruments, and sectoral measures to augment manufacturing output and efficiency. At the sectoral level, the LDCs have reoriented their incentive structure and introduced changes in institutional policies and regulatory arrangements in order to improve the macroeconomic environment for manufacturing production.

18. The LDCs have made major efforts to improve their transport and transit infrastructure systems during the last decade. The budgetary constraints faced by LDCs have, however, gradually undermined the financial capabilities of Governments to maintain the momentum of these efforts. These constraints are particularly felt in land-locked and island LDCs, where inadequate physical infrastructure poses major obstacles to structural transformation and economic development.

IV. LAND-LOCKED AND ISLAND LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

19. Sixteen of the 48 least developed countries are also land-locked. The high transport costs which result from their particular geographical handicaps continue to have a significant adverse impact on their international trade performance and overall economic development. In order to alleviate the particular problems which these countries face, the land-locked and transit developing countries, as well as the donor community, adopted a Global Framework for Transport Cooperation,[56] which contains a comprehensive set of recommendations for concrete action at the national and subregional levels designed to improve the efficiency of transit transport systems. The Framework underscores the need for extensive financial and technical support by the donor community. The donor community recognizes this. Furthermore, the Framework calls upon UNCTAD and the regional economic commissions to play a leading role in promoting the implementation of the agreed actions.

20. Island least developed countries continue to face particular problems resulting from their smallness, insularity and remoteness from the major economic centres. They are vulnerable to a number of adverse factors, including environmental degradation. Poor internal and external transport links to world markets negatively compound their ability to participate effectively in world trade. The Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[57] adopted in Barbados in May 1994, outlines a range of measures that need to be undertaken in order to alleviate the particular problems which these countries face. The Programme calls for increased support by the international community to ensure effective implementation of these measures in conjunction with national measures in support of sustainable development.

V. HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

21. LDCs have adopted and are implementing policies, measures and programmes to tackle key problems in human resources development. However, the expansion of national population programmes within the overall framework of human resources development has been difficult for a number of reasons, such as funding constraints, among others. These programmes have been complemented by strong efforts to change attitudes, including persuasion and campaigns relying on traditional and modern information techniques.

22. Despite major difficulties, there have been some encouraging results achieved by some LDCs, particularly in the areas of health and

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[56] TD/B/LDC/AC.1/6.

[57] *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, 25 April to 6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

education. However, in many LDCs, mortality rates continue to be high. The situation is exacerbated by poor sanitation and hygienic conditions and the lack of safe drinking water supplies. Acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) and tropical epidemic and endemic diseases have become a major cause of death in recent years in some LDCs, as these countries have limited resources to deal effectively with such endemics and epidemics. The economic crisis faced by LDCs has further undermined health conditions in many countries as living standards have fallen, health services have been cut owing to budgetary pressures, and the availability of imported medicines and other medical supplies has dwindled. Education services continue to be affected by deteriorating economic conditions, in particular by budgetary constraints. There is need for investment in the development of human capacities, particularly in programmes of health, nutrition, education and training and population activities.

23. Although women constitute half of human resources in the LDCs, they have continued to be hampered by their marginal position from playing their full role in socio-economic development. Despite measures being taken to enhance their role in development, women in the LDCs still lag behind their male counterparts as well as women from other developing countries in all areas of social and economic development. They face particular problems related to gender discrimination, such as limited access to productive resources, restricted education and training opportunities, poor health status, low representation in strategic decision-making positions, as well as having to bear a high dependency burden: the more so, as deepening poverty is felt more acutely by women-headed households. In addition, prevalent attitudes regarding women's abilities and their proper socio-economic role, and women's own lack of knowledge about their rights, have kept them away from mainstream development. The lack of follow-up of decisions and internationally agreed recommendations aiming at the advancement of the status of women has also been a major cause of the poor prevailing situation.

VI. EXTERNAL TRADE AND THE IMPLICATIONS OF THE FINAL ACT OF THE URUGUAY ROUND

24. The Programme of Action underlined that it is essential that all countries contribute to developing a more open, credible and durable multilateral trading system, recognizing that the results of this process could be a reflection, *inter alia*, of their respective weight in world trade. It is encouraging to note that the LDCs have contributed to this process by implementing important trade liberalization measures. The Programme of Action also called for important support measures in favour of LDCs in such areas as duty-free treatment of their exports, exemptions from quotas and ceilings and the use of simplified and flexible rules of origin. Progress made in the provision of such support has been important in the case of a number of countries. While a number of LDCs have been able to increase their exports, the overall trade situation of the LDCs has deteriorated, in that their share in global trade has continued to decline. Although globalization and liberalization offer opportunities to LDCs, these processes also pose major challenges, particularly in the form of increased global competition. Despite recent improvements, world commodity markets have remained volatile and depressed. As a result the LDCs have become further marginalized and this trend needs to be reversed.

25. The extremely low export capacity of most LDCs has continued to be one of the major obstacles to growth and a source of the high dependence on ODA for financing the necessary investment, imports and technical support for development. Difficulties have persisted in expanding the external trading opportunities of LDCs, as commodity and market diversification measures have been rendered difficult principally by lack of investment, technology and skills to augment levels of production and efficiency.

26. LDCs have been granted special tariff preferences under various Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) schemes and other preferential arrangements. Following the conclusion of the Uruguay Round, a number of countries have taken steps to improve their GSP schemes in favour of LDCs. However, some schemes still exclude a number of products of export interest to LDCs (e.g. textiles, clothing, carpets, footwear, leather goods etc.) and have rigid rules of origin. As the ability of many LDCs to utilize such facilities remains constrained, only a part of GSP-covered imports from LDCs has received preferential treatment. Thus the use of GSP schemes, in particular by African LDCs, has remained limited.

27. The adoption of the Final Act of the Uruguay Round[9] will have significant consequences for the trading prospects of LDCs, in particular as regards preferences and the competitiveness of LDC exports. Increased transparency of trade regimes and the reduction of trade barriers, particularly tariff-binding on agricultural products and reduction in tariff escalation, as foreseen in the Marrakesh arrangements, provide LDCs with increased opportunities in the long run. On the other hand, concerns have been expressed that LDCs may suffer erosion of preferential margins in relation to many of their exports to major markets and a possible consequential loss in export market shares and export earnings. In addition, the net food-importing LDCs may face higher import bills, at least in the short run, resulting from the agreement on agriculture. In the long run, the Final Act poses to LDCs the twin challenges of, first, developing and strengthening institutional and human capacities to formulate and manage legislation implementing the complex set of agreements of the Round, and secondly, building capacities for maximizing opportunities arising from these agreements. In this regard, the provisions of the Marrakesh Declaration and the ministerial decisions in favour of LDCs should be fully implemented.

28. A number of developed countries have set up in their own countries import promotion agencies in order to promote more trade with LDCs. Such agencies have played a helpful role in providing support services and in acting as contact points for business/trade missions from LDCs, undertaking market research and giving publicity to LDC products.

29. Trade among the LDCs, on the one hand, and that between LDCs and other developing countries within the same subregional or regional economic groupings, on the other hand, remains insignificant as a share of international trade. Only a few LDCs at present receive preferential treatment for their exports under the Global System of Trade Preferences among Developing Countries (GSTP) on a non-reciprocal basis. Additionally, subregional and regional trade is constrained by a number of obstacles, such as the fact that most countries produce similar export products, that subregional transport infrastructure is geared to trade with developed countries, that progress in tariff reduction is limited due to fiscal revenue implications for preference-giving countries, and that international support remains limited.

VII. EXTERNAL FINANCE

30. It was noted with concern that ODA remains the single most important source of external financing for LDCs. While welcoming improved aid performance by some donors, at the same time it was noted that overall aid performance by donors fell short of the commitments undertaken in the Programme of Action. ODA flows (actual disbursements) from Development Assistance Committee (DAC) countries, and multilateral agencies mainly financed by them, to the LDCs declined sharply in 1993. In absolute terms, ODA flows fell by $1.5 billion. Almost $1 billion of this was due to a drop in multilateral aid flows to LDCs. In view of the important role of multilateral funding in meeting the financial needs of LDCs and the uncertain resource outlook for some of the major multilateral financial institutions and grant-based programmes, this is a particularly worrying development. The ODA/GNP ratio for DAC donors as a whole declined to 0.08 per cent in 1993 as compared with 0.09 per cent in 1990. Moreover, this shortfall has to be seen against the agreed menu of aid targets and/or commitments as set out in paragraph 23 of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s[51] which call for a significant and substantial increase in resources to LDCs and include, *inter alia*, the targets of 0.15 per cent and 0.20 per cent of donor GNP as ODA.

31. Donors have modified and improved their policies in the area of aid modalities. Most DAC donors have now shifted to a grant basis in their aid programmes for LDCs, resulting in a further increase in the grant element of bilateral ODA (which averaged 97 per cent in 1993). Most multilateral funding to LDCs is also on highly concessional terms. Multilateral funding constitutes an important complement to bilateral ODA for the LDCs and it is crucial that the base of this multilateral funding be sufficiently broadened. International efforts should continue to mobilize resources to LDCs implementing structural adjustment programmes, such as the World Bank–led Special Programme of Assistance (SPA) process, which in some cases have resulted in limited progress.

VIII. EXTERNAL DEBT AND RELIEF MEASURES

32. The external debt and its servicing burden remains a crucial issue for the majority of LDCs. According to Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development/Development Assistance Com-

mittee (OECD/DAC) information, LDC total debt stock amounted to $127 billion in 1993, corresponding to 76 per cent of their combined GDP. It appears that for half of these countries, their external debt is equal to or exceeds their respective GDP. The difficulties many LDCs have in meeting their external obligations, in the context of the critical current economic situation and their poor export performance, is reflected in the relatively low levels of debt service paid in relation to scheduled payments. The share of multilateral debt in total long-term debt, as well as debt service, has increased considerably in recent years. Thus, in 1993 the multilateral debt constituted around 36 per cent of total debt of LDCs as compared with 27 per cent in 1984. The corresponding share in total debt service during this period increased even more, from less than 30 per cent to almost 50 per cent. This increase partly reflects the "lender of last resort function" of the international financial institutions and the fact that an increasing number of bilateral creditors are relinquishing many of their ODA claims to LDCs and have shifted from credit lending to grants. Debt-relief measures taken so far have not yet fully provided an effective and durable solution to the outstanding debt and debt-servicing burden of LDCs, although important relief measures have been taken to reduce their debt stock and debt-service obligations. In particular, following the adoption of the Toronto terms in 1988 (and enhanced Toronto terms in 1991), from which 19 LDCs benefited, the Paris Club in 1994 improved the debt treatment of the poorest countries by adopting the "Naples terms". These may constitute a step forward for the LDCs but might not be sufficient by themselves to resolve their external debt problem. Eight LDCs have already benefited from these provisions, which notably offer the possibilities to reduce the eligible debt of the poorest and most indebted countries by 50 to 67 per cent.

IX. ARRANGEMENTS FOR IMPLEMENTATION, FOLLOW-UP AND MONITORING OF THE PROGRAMME OF ACTION

A. *The national level*

33. At the national level, review arrangements, including United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)-sponsored round tables and the World Bank consultative and aid groups, have been further consolidated during the early 1990s, with additional countries joining or rejoining the process and meetings taking place more frequently and on a more regular basis. A strengthened country review process was considered the principal means of policy dialogue, and for coordinating the aid efforts of development partners with the development programmes of LDCs as well as mobilizing the required resources for their implementation. In all, over 60 full-scale consultative aid groups and round-table or similar meetings were organized from the adoption of the Programme of Action until early 1995. While results in terms of resource mobilization have varied between countries, these meetings no doubt have an important role to play in improving aid flows to LDCs and in aid coordination. An important aspect of the country review process in recent years has been the attempt to link these arrangements more closely to national policy-making and programming.

B. *The regional level*

34. At the regional level, the Programme of Action called for monitoring progress in economic cooperation between LDCs and other developing countries, particularly those in the same region. It also called for organizing cluster meetings to improve and strengthen existing cooperation arrangements at the regional and subregional levels. The United Nations regional commissions have, as part of their ongoing work, continued to follow up and monitor the implementation of the Programme of Action in LDCs in their respective regions. The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) has established a Special Body on Least Developed and Land-locked Developing Countries. The Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) has continued to consider progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action in African LDCs during the annual meetings of the Commission. However, owing to resource constraints in the United Nations the cluster meeting process has not been initiated.

C. *The global level*

35. At the global level, UNCTAD has responsibility as the focal point for the monitoring, follow-up and review of the implementation of the Programme of Action. In addition to the regular follow-up, monitoring and review of progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action at the global level by the UNCTAD Trade and Development Board, efforts have also been made to promote the full mobilization and coordination of all organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system for the purpose of the implementation and follow-up of the Programme of Action, but more remains to be done. Individual agencies have continued to develop and implement assistance programmes for the LDCs and pursued their advocacy and policy advisory missions with regard to these countries. There is need for regular reporting of progress made by various agencies.

PART THREE

RECOMMENDATIONS

36. The present recommendations are based on the assessment of progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s presented above, as well as on information contained in *The Least Developed Countries 1995 Report*,[53] and recommendations made by the expert groups convened by the UNCTAD secretariat as part of the preparations for the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting on the Mid-term Global Review of the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s. These recommendations cover a number of key areas of concern for the LDCs.

I. MAJOR CHALLENGES

37. The challenges facing LDCs in the second half of the 1990s are to reverse the decline in economic and social conditions, to promote sustainable economic growth, development and structural transformation and to avoid becoming further marginalized in the international economy. An intensified policy commitment by both LDC Governments and the international community will be required to meet these challenges. In implementing domestic policies, LDCs should endeavour to focus on measures to restore and maintain macroeconomic stability; to promote the growth and diversification of exports; to strengthen an enabling environment for private sector investment and entrepreneurship; to enhance human resources development; to continue to implement population and development programmes with full respect for the various religious and ethical values and cultural background of each country's people; to adhere to basic human rights recognized by the international community which strike an optimal balance in the interrelationship between their population, their natural resource base and the environment, taking into account economic imperatives; to strengthen the infrastructure; to promote good governance as mentioned in the Programme of Action; to broaden popular participation in the development process; and to ensure the full utilization of human resources along with democratization, promotion of good governance, observance of the rule of law and peaceful resolution of any civil conflicts where such conditions exist. The broad outlines of a domestic economic policy framework conducive to meeting the challenges facing the LDCs are delineated below.

II. THE ECONOMIC POLICY FRAMEWORK

38. (*a*) Macroeconomic stability would require rationalization and sound management of public expenditure, properly planned monetary growth and maintenance of appropriate exchange rates commensurate with ensuring a sustainable external balance;

(*b*) Policies to increase export earnings, including appropriate exchange rate and trade policy reforms to reverse the decline in the share of world trade of the LDCs, diversify the composition of their export structure and to facilitate their ability to exploit opportunities arising from the Final Act of the Uruguay Round, are essential;

(*c*) This will entail strengthening of existing policies and measures for the promotion and support of the private sector complemented with public investment, including policy-based incentives or the adoption of new policies and measures where necessary;

(*d*) The potential for economic and technical cooperation between LDCs and other developing countries merits further exploration. The international community should help LDCs promote trade links and should take appropriate measures to support such trade links, particularly subregional and regional trade. Such trade could be promoted by identifying complementarities in production structures among countries, strengthening the institutional and human capacities for the operation of subregional trading arrangements, establishing subregional trade information networks, and associating the private sector more closely with the integration process. There are potential gains for the LDCs in participating in the Global System of Trade Preferences among Developing Countries (GSTP). LDCs should be encouraged to accede to GSTP and be provided with appropriate technical assistance to enable them to benefit fully from the system. Least developed countries should strengthen subregional, regional and interregional cooperation in order to benefit from economies of scale and to attract foreign direct investment more easily from developed and other developing countries. More attention should be given to promoting triangular cooperation and technical cooperation among developing countries (TCDC) as well as South-South joint ventures and economic cooperation among developing countries (ECDC) investment in these countries;

(*e*) The growth of a dynamic private enterprise sector requires an appropriate economic, fiscal and legal framework. Essential features of this framework are stable and predictable policies, tax, monetary and trade policies which ensure adequate incentives for investment, and a legal system which protects property rights and commercial contracts. These features are also needed to tap into international capital flows in the form of direct and portfolio investments;

(*f*) Enhancing human resources development is imperative if LDCs are to raise productivity, output and living standards. With the support of the international community, LDC Governments should intensify their efforts to raise education and training standards, promote life-long learning, improve the health status of their populations, and strengthen the status of women, by implementing appropriate policies in accordance with the provisions of the International Conference on Population and Development[58] and the Fourth World Conference on Women;[59]

(*g*) To enable women in LDCs to play their full role in development, efforts should focus on legislative and administrative reforms to give women full and equal access to economic resources, including the right to inheritance and to ownership of land and other property, credit, natural resources and appropriate technologies, and to involve women directly in planning, decision-making, implementation and development of macroeconomic and social policies, programmes and projects. Special initiatives and innovative schemes which can give women increased access to credit, training, information on marketing channels, as well as other support services, to alleviate the burden of their role as mothers and housewives, should be adopted;

(*h*) The economic policy strategies adopted by the LDCs should be consistent with the need to eradicate the chronic levels of poverty afflicting these countries, in particular by promoting the development of the private sector and entrepreneurship, by ensuring that all people have access to productive resources, and benefit from a policy and regulatory environment that enhances their overall capacities and empowers them to benefit from expanding employment and economic opportunities;

(*i*) LDC Governments are attempting to implement comprehensive structural adjustment reforms in very difficult circumstances, often in the face of severe administrative and financial constraints. Many of the constraints that they face are structural, deep-seated and not amenable to short-term solutions. Consequently, successful structural adjustment reforms require a government commitment to reform, and a medium-term to long-term perspective for implementation;

(*j*) In order to ensure that structural adjustment programmes include social development goals, in particular the eradication of poverty, the generation of productive employment and the enhancement of social integration, LDC Governments, in cooperation with the international financial institutions and other international organizations, should:

- (i) Protect basic social programmes and expenditure, in particular those affecting the poor and vulnerable segments of society, from budget reductions;
- (ii) Review the impact of structural adjustment programmes on social development by means of gender-sensitive social-impact assessments and other relevant methods, and develop policies to reduce their negative effects and improve their positive impact;
- (iii) Further promote policies enabling small enterprises, cooperatives and other forms of micro-enterprises to develop their capacities for income generation and employment creation;

(*k*) Agreeing on a mutual commitment between interested developed and developing country partners to allocate, on average, 20 per cent of ODA and 20 per cent of the national budget, respectively, to basic social programmes, and in this context, the proposal of the Government of Norway to host a meeting in 1996 among interested countries and representatives of relevant international institutions, with a view to considering how the 20/20 initiative can be applied operationally, is welcomed;

(*l*) Commitment of the LDCs and the assistance of the international community are essential components for the success of structural adjustment programmes. Without such support, the long-term objectives and the sustainability of the programmes will be jeopardized. In this regard, therefore, renewed commitments by the international community as defined by the Programme of Action adopted in Paris and other relevant instruments to support the efforts of the LDCs with adequate resources is vital.

III. EXTERNAL TRADE AND INVESTMENT

39. The extremely low export capacity of LDCs, their very low level of export receipts, and the fluctuation and the resulting sharp limitation on their capacity to import, are the major structural constraints to developing LDC trade. This situation is more acute in the case of land-locked and island least developed countries, as their external trade is further impeded by high transportation costs.

40. Action by the international community, including increased technical assistance as foreseen in the Marrakesh Ministerial Decision on Measures in Favour of LDCs, complemented by adequate financial support, can help LDC efforts to increase export earnings through increased production in both the traditional and the modern sectors of the economy, through diversification of the commodity structure and export markets, and thereby help to obtain better prices for their export commodities. It can also help LDCs to mitigate any adverse effects of the implementation of the Uruguay Round agreements and to integrate themselves better into the international trading system. The interest of LDCs regarding the idea of considering the setting up of a "safety net" to help them cope with any such effects in the immediate and short term was noted. The Final Act of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations, including the special clauses providing differential and more favourable treatment, and the decision on measures in favour of least developed countries, provide the institutional framework for these matters.

A

41. All provisions of the Final Act of the Uruguay Round[9] should be effectively applied. In this regard, concrete action, as appropriate, should be taken, consistent with the Final Act, to fully and expeditiously implement the Marrakesh Declaration as it relates to LDCs, and the Ministerial Decision on Measures in Favour of LDCs, and to give effect to the Ministerial Decision on Measures Concerning the Possible Negative Effects of the Reform Programme on Least Developed and Net Food-importing Countries, with a view to enhancing LDC participation in the multilateral trading system, taking into account the impact of trade liberalization, and the relatively weak capacities of LDCs to participate in an increasingly competitive global market in goods and services.

42. Consideration shall be given to further improving GSP schemes and other schemes for products of particular export interest to LDCs, e.g. agricultural products, fish and fish products, leather and footwear, and textiles and clothing, through, where possible, the widening of product coverage; the reduction of procedural complexities, and the avoidance of frequent changes in the schemes. Consideration should also be given to a significant reduction in tariff escalation.

43. The rules set out in the various agreements and instruments and the transitional provisions of the Uruguay Round, including those relating to anti-dumping, countervailing duties, safeguards, and rules of origin, should be applied in a flexible and supportive manner for the least developed countries.

44. As for textiles and clothing, consideration should be given, to the extent possible, to permitting meaningful increases in the possibilities of access for exports from LDCs.

45. In the area of services, efforts should be directed at building and strengthening the efficiency and competitiveness of the weak domestic service sectors of the LDCs. Their participation in trade in services could be enhanced by effective application of article IV of the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) with special priority given to LDCs. Furthermore, ways should be explored to facilitate LDC access to information technology and networks and distribution channels, and to give easy access to information to LDC

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[58] See *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994* (A/CONF.171/13/Rev.1) (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1.

[59] See A/CONF.177/20, chap. I, resolution 1.

service suppliers through contact points to be established, in accordance with GATS. It was noted that the movement of labour for the provision of services to other countries is an area of interest to LDCs.

46. Care should be taken so that domestic laws and regulations of importing countries in areas such as labour and the environment do not constrain the export opportunities of LDCs in a manner inconsistent with the Final Act of the Uruguay Round.

47. The home countries of foreign investment are urged to encourage investment in LDCs by taking appropriate supportive action.

48. South-South cooperation at the subregional and regional levels should be promoted to enhance regional and subregional trade by providing market access for LDCs by neighbouring countries. Appropriate measures should be taken to promote, support and strengthen trade initiatives of LDCs in subregional and regional groupings. Efforts of the LDCs to diversify their exports need to be supported so that their trading prospects become more viable. Such cooperation can be critical in complementing actions by LDCs and their development partners to attract foreign investment to LDCs. Measures should be taken to grant preferential access to the exports of LDCs on a non-reciprocal basis by developing countries under the GSTP, and also to augment resources, where appropriate, for promoting economic cooperation among developing countries (ECDC) and technical cooperation among developing countries (TCDC) through multilateral and bilateral institutions. Developing countries should, *inter alia*, introduce preferential schemes for LDCs under the GSTP.

B

49. Technical assistance should be refocused and wherever necessary intensified to help LDCs adapt to and take advantage of the new trading environment created by the conclusion of the Uruguay Round. Common efforts of donors, international organizations as well as the LDCs themselves are needed in the implementation of the commitments undertaken and for maximizing the opportunities arising from the Uruguay Round agreements. Main areas of technical assistance in this regard should include:

(*a*) Enhancing institutional and human capacities to comply with the new obligations arising from membership of the World Trade Organization (WTO) or to assist LDCs to accede to WTO, as well as to formulate and implement future trade policy;

(*b*) Developing and strengthening supply capabilities in relation to tradable goods and services, and the competitiveness of enterprises;

(*c*) Improving the microeconomic trading environment and expanding the use of new communications technologies in the service of trade through the UNCTAD Trade Efficiency Programme;

(*d*) Enhancing the capability to make full use of GSP schemes;

(*e*) Supporting commodity diversification and marketing efforts;

(*f*) Expanding the trading and investment opportunities of LDCs, in particular, by identifying new trading opportunities which could be carried out, *inter alia*, through import promotion agencies by developed and other countries, developing an environment conducive to attracting foreign investment, and through advice and technical support.

50. With a view to achieving these aims, it is essential to eliminate duplication and strengthen cooperation between relevant international organizations, in particular UNCTAD, WTO and the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/GATT, in order to conserve scarce resources and make full use of the existing and potential synergies among these organizations. Among the measures that should be considered is the establishment of a technical assistance fund administered by WTO in order to help LDCs participate actively in WTO.

IV. EXTERNAL FINANCE

51. The overwhelming dependence of LDCs on official development assistance (ODA) is likely to continue during the rest of the present decade and beyond. The basic policy issues that the international community faces in this respect in the current climate of budgetary stringency and ODA scarcity, are: (*a*) how to improve aid allocations to the LDCs; and (*b*) how to enhance the quality and effectiveness of assistance to these countries. Donors need to expeditiously implement the agreed menu of aid targets and/or commitments as set out in paragraph 23 of the Programme of Action[51] and fulfil their commitments to provide a significant and substantial increase in the aggregate level of external support to LDCs, keeping in mind the increased needs of these countries, as well as the requirements of the new countries included in the list of LDCs following the Paris Conference. The various provisions of the relevant resolutions adopted in the General Assembly in recent years, as well as the various relevant provisions adopted by recent major United Nations conferences, in particular the World Summit for Social Development,[60] should also be taken into account, as adopted.

52. In view of the enhanced assistance capacities of a number of developing countries over the last few years, they should be invited to join the traditional donor countries in providing assistance to the LDCs.

53. The following measures and actions by donors can be highlighted:

(*a*) Specific measures to incorporate the agreed menu of aid targets and/or commitments as set out in paragraph 23 of the Programme of Action more explicitly into the national aid strategies and budgetary planning mechanisms of donors;

(*b*) Ensure adequate funding of the multilateral institutions and programmes which are major sources of financing for LDCs. Particular attention will have to be paid to replenishment of the International Development Association (IDA) and the soft-term windows of the regional development banks, and other grant-based multilateral programmes. The relevant multilateral financial institutions are also invited to explore the possibility of tapping new sources of funds to help support LDC development efforts;

(*c*) Support United Nations development efforts by substantially increasing the resources for operational activities on a predictable, continuous and assured basis commensurate with the increasing needs of developing countries as stated in General Assembly resolutions 47/199 of 22 December 1992 and 48/162 of 20 December 1993, while giving particular consideration to the special needs of LDCs as underlined in the programmes of action of major United Nations conferences organized since 1990;

(*d*) Continue to give high priority to LDCs in the operational activities of all parts of the United Nations system for development, bearing in mind decision 95/23 of 16 June 1995 of the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme and of the United Nations Population Fund,[61] in which it is stated that 60 per cent of UNDP programme resources in its future programming arrangement should be allocated to LDCs;

(*e*) Continue to provide financial support to adjustment programmes in LDCs on a timely basis and on terms adapted to the special needs and circumstances of LDCs, adequate external financing for the development and diversification of the productive sector, as well as additional support for poverty eradication, environmental conservation and social programmes;

(*f*) An increased level of technical assistance should be provided to LDCs and priority should be given to skill transfer, with a view to developing national capacity;

(*g*) Ensure the maintenance of mutual transparency and accountability in the management of aid resources by the aid officials of donor countries/ organizations and managers in recipient countries, as well as ensure the active support of the donor countries/organizations towards the promotion of ownership of development programmes by the recipient countries;

(*h*) The international community should support the measures being taken in the LDCs towards the eradication of poverty. Increased resources should be made available from all possible sources, public and private, in this regard.

V. EXTERNAL DEBT

54. Many LDCs face serious debt problems and more than half are considered debt-distressed. The serious debt problem of the LDCs necessitates strengthened efforts on the international debt strategy. This strategy should include concrete measures to alleviate the debt burden and increased concessional financing, in support of appropriate economic policy measures, which will be critical to the revitalization of growth and development. Debt-distressed LDCs should benefit from substantial debt-relief schemes.

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[60] See A/CONF.166/9, chap. I, resolution 1.

[61] See E/1995/L.22. The final text of the decision will appear in *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1995, Supplement No. 14* (E/1995/34/Rev.1).

A. *Official bilateral debt*

55. (*a*) All donors that have not already done so are urged to implement Trade and Development Board resolution 165 (S-IX) of 11 March 1978[62] by cancelling or providing equivalent relief for ODA debt as a matter of priority in such a way that the net flows of ODA are improved for the recipient. Those creditors still holding such claims, including non-OECD creditors, are urged to take similar measures;

(*b*) Adopt measures to substantially reduce the bilateral debt of the LDCs, in particular the countries of Africa, as soon as possible;

(*c*) Paris Club creditors are invited to continue to implement expeditiously and in a flexible manner the very concessional treatment under the Naples terms;

(*d*) Other non-Paris Club creditors are also invited to take similar measures in order to alleviate the debt burden of debt-distressed LDCs, including by setting up special debt-reduction programmes and debt-relief mechanisms.

B. *Multilateral debt*

56. In order to address the multilateral debt problems of LDCs, the Bretton Woods institutions are encouraged to develop a comprehensive approach to assist countries with multilateral debt problems, through the flexible implementation of existing instruments and new mechanisms where necessary. In this respect the Bretton Woods institutions are encouraged to expedite the ongoing consideration of ways to address the issue of multilateral debt. Other international financial institutions are invited to consider, within the scope of their mandates, appropriate efforts with a view to assisting LDCs with multilateral debt problems.

C. *Commercial debt*

57. (*a*) Invites creditor countries, private banks and multilateral financial institutions, within their prerogatives, to consider continuing the initiatives and efforts to address the commercial debt problems of the LDCs;

(*b*) Mobilize the resources of the Debt Reduction Facility of the International Development Association in order to help eligible least developed countries to reduce their commercial debt, considering alternative mechanisms to complement that Facility.

58. In accordance with the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development,[60] techniques of debt conversion applied to social development programmes and projects should be developed and implemented.

VI. ARRANGEMENTS FOR IMPLEMENTATION, FOLLOW-UP AND MONITORING OF THE PROGRAMME OF ACTION

59. It is important that UNCTAD, which is the focal point at the global level for the monitoring, follow-up and review of the implementation of the Programme of Action, has sufficient capacity and resources to follow up the outcome of the mid-term global review. In this regard, it is recalled that the General Assembly, in resolution 49/98, invited the Secretary-General to make recommendations to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session with a view to ensuring that the UNCTAD secretariat has sufficient capacity to undertake an effective follow-up of the outcome of the mid-term review as well as the follow-up of the conclusions and recommendations relating to LDCs adopted by major global conferences, as appropriate.

50/104. Women in development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 40/204 of 17 December 1985, 42/178 of 11 December 1987 and 44/171 of 19 December 1989, as well as all other relevant Assembly resolutions on the integration of women in development, and the resolutions adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women on the integration of women in development,

Bearing in mind the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women and other recent major United Nations conferences and summits,

Recognizing the significant contribution that women make to economic activities and the major force that they represent for change and development in all sectors of the economy, especially in key areas, such as agriculture, industry and services,

Reaffirming that women are key contributors to the economy and to combating poverty through both remunerated and unremunerated work at home, in the community and in the workplace, and that the empowerment of women is a critical factor in the eradication of poverty,

Recognizing that the difficult socio-economic conditions that exist in many developing countries have resulted in the rapid feminization of poverty, especially in rural areas and in female-headed households,

Aware that the continued discrimination against women, their continued lack of equal access to education and training, and their lack of control over land, capital, technology and other areas of production impede their full contribution to, and opportunity to benefit from, development,

Recognizing that the informal sector is a major source of entrepreneurship and employment for women in many developing countries,

Noting the importance of the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system in facilitating the advancement of women in development,

1. *Welcomes* the adoption of the Beijing Declaration[63] and Platform for Action[64] by the Fourth World Conference on Women;

2. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the effective mobilization and integration of women in development;[65]

3. *Calls* for the urgent implementation of the Platform for Action adopted at Beijing as well as the relevant provisions contained in the outcome of all other major United Nations conferences and summits;

4. *Stresses* that a favourable and conducive international and national economic and financial environment and a positive investment climate are necessary for the effective integration of women in development;

5. *Also stresses* the importance of developing national strategies for promoting sustainable and productive entrepreneurial activities to generate income among disadvantaged women and women living in poverty;

6. *Calls upon* all Governments and all actors of society to implement the commitment made in Beijing to create an enabling environment through, *inter alia*, removing discriminatory barriers and ensuring the full and equal participation of women in economic activities through, *inter alia*, the adoption of gender-sensitive policies and legal measures and the provision of other necessary structures;

7. *Urges* all Governments to ensure women's equal rights and access to economic resources, and to increase women's access to credit by instituting innovative lending practices, including practices that integrate credit with services and training for women, and that provide flexible credit facilities to women, in particular rural women,

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[62] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-third Session, Supplement No. 15* (A/33/15 and Corr.1), vol. I, part two, annex I.

[63] A/CONF.177/20, chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[64] Ibid., annex II.

[65] A/50/399.

women in the informal sector, young women and women who lack access to traditional sources of collateral;

8. *Urges* Governments to develop and promote methodologies for incorporating a gender perspective into all aspects of policy-making, including economic policy-making;

9. *Calls upon* the United Nations system, in particular its funds and programmes and specialized agencies, and all other relevant organizations to promote an active and visible policy of mainstreaming gender perspective in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of all policies and programmes;

10. *Urges* the international community, the United Nations system and other relevant organizations to give priority to assisting developing countries' efforts to ensure the full and effective participation of women in deciding and implementing development strategies, including through increased access to health care, capital, education, training and technology, as well as by women's wider participation in decision-making;

11. *Urges* multilateral donors, international financial institutions and regional development banks to review and implement policies in support of national efforts to ensure that a higher proportion of resources reach women, in particular in rural and remote areas;

12. *Requests* the United Nations development system to work towards establishing a more coherent approach to its support for women's income-generating activities, in particular credit schemes;

13. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-second session a sub-item entitled "Effective mobilization and integration of women in development";

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session a report on action taken to implement the present resolution.

96th plenary meeting
20 December 1995

50/105. Developing human resources for development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 48/205 of 21 December 1993, 46/143 of 17 December 1991 and 45/191 of 21 December 1990, as well as its resolutions S-18/3 of 1 May 1990 and 45/199 of 21 December 1990,

Reaffirming that people are central to all activities related to development and that human resources development is an essential means of achieving sustainable development goals,

Recognizing that human resources development should contribute to total human development, which enlarges the choices available to people in developing their lives and fulfilling their aspirations, and that there is a need to integrate human resources development into comprehensive strategies for human development that mainstreams a gender perspective, taking into account the needs of all people, in particular the needs of women,

Stressing that there is need for a supportive and favourable international economic environment that will enhance human development in developing countries and promote economic growth and development,

Recognizing that, while economic reforms and structural adjustment programmes are intended to promote economic growth and development, elements of such programmes may have an adverse impact on human resources development, and also that there is a need to take action, in the formulation and implementation of these programmes, to mitigate any negative effects,

Stressing the need for adequate resources to enhance the capacity of Governments of developing countries to promote human resources development in pursuit of their national programmes, plans and strategies for development,

Stressing also that Governments of developing countries have the primary responsibility for defining and implementing appropriate policies for human resources development,

Recognizing the vital role that South-South and North-South cooperation play in supporting national efforts in human resources development, bilaterally as well as multilaterally,

Emphasizing the need for coordination and integration among the organs and organizations of the United Nations system in assisting developing countries to foster the development of their human resources, especially that of the most vulnerable, and for the United Nations to continue to give priority to human resources development in developing countries,

Recognizing the importance accorded in the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and in the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development to the human component of development,[60]

Recognizing also the importance of the Platform for Action adopted at the recently concluded Fourth World Conference on Women,[64] held at Beijing from 4 to 15 September 1995,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on developing human resources for development;[66]

2. *Emphasizes* that, in the development of human resources, an overall, well-conceived and integrated approach that mainstreams a gender perspective and takes into account the needs of all people should be adopted, incorporating such vital areas as population, health, nutrition, water, sanitation, housing, communications, education and training, and science and technology, as well as taking into account the need to create more opportunities for employment in an environment that guarantees opportunities for political freedom, popular participation, respect for human rights, justice and equity, all of which are essential for enhancing human capacity to meet the challenge of development;

3. *Encourages* all countries to accord priority, in particular in national budgets, to human resources development in the context of the adoption of economic and social policies;

4. *Emphasizes* the need to ensure the full participation of women in the formulation and implementation of national policies to promote human resources development;

5. *Calls upon* the international community to support national efforts to develop human resources for development by increasing the priority of resources for those activities;

6. *Calls upon* the relevant organs, organizations and

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[66] A/50/330 and Corr.1.

bodies of the United Nations system to ensure the coordination of activities in support of national and regional action in the area of human resources development;

7. *Emphasizes* that structural adjustment programmes should include social development goals, in particular the eradication of poverty, the promotion of full and productive employment, and the enhancement of social integration;

8. *Also emphasizes* that Governments and relevant institutions should ensure, where appropriate, an adequate social safety net under structural adjustment programmes and should develop policies to reduce the negative effects of these programmes and to improve their positive impact, bearing in mind that social safety nets associated with economic restructuring are short-term by nature and should be considered as complementary strategies;

9. *Acknowledges* the action taken thus far by the United Nations system in operational activities in the area of human resources development, and urges further action in accordance with resolutions of the General Assembly on human resources for development;

10. *Notes with serious concern* the worrisome trend of a decrease in overall development assistance, which affects the level of resources for human resources development, and emphasizes that financial commitment to human resources development is of critical importance in contributing to the enhancement of the concept of people-centred sustainable development;

11. *Calls for* follow-up action to be taken as recommended in the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development and in the Platform for Action adopted at Beijing, in order to ensure the strengthening of human resources development;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take into account the outcome of the upcoming United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) in the context of human resources development;

13. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to monitor the activities of the United Nations system in human resources development and to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, including further action taken by the United Nations system with regard to human resources development and the enhancement of inter-agency coordination;

14. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-second session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development and international economic cooperation", a sub-item entitled "Human resources development".

96th plenary meeting
20 December 1995

50/106. Business and development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 48/180 of 21 December 1993,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General concerning policies and activities related to entrepreneurship, privatization, demonopolization and administrative deregulation,[67]

Also taking note of chapter VI of the *World Economic and Social Survey, 1995*,[68]

Further taking note of the report of the Committee on an International Agreement on Illicit Payments on its first and second sessions,[69] the report of the Commission on Transnational Corporations on efforts by the United Nations to address the issue of corrupt practices[70] and work undertaken in other international forums on the issue of corrupt practices,

Looking forward to the review by the Economic and Social Council of the report of the Twelfth Meeting of Experts on the United Nations Programme in Public Administration and Finance,

Aware of the need to increase private-sector involvement in the provision of infrastructure services, *inter alia*, through joint ventures between public and private entities, particularly in countries with economies in transition, while protecting essential services and safeguarding the environment,

Recognizing the important role of Governments in creating, through transparent and participatory processes, an enabling environment supportive of entrepreneurship and facilitative of privatization, in particular in establishing the judicial, executive and legislative frameworks necessary for a market-based exchange of goods and services and for good management,[71]

Taking note of the World Ministerial Conference on Organized Transnational Crime (Naples, 21-23 November 1994 and Buenos Aires, November 1995), and of the Ninth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (Cairo, 29 April-8 May 1995), in particular the consideration by those conferences of the issue of illicit payments in international business transactions,

Acknowledging the need for international cooperation to deal with the problem of illicit payments in international business transactions, such as in the ongoing work of the United Nations on its draft international agreement on illicit payments,[72] so as to promote accountability and a stable and predictable international business environment, and acknowledging further that international efforts in that field require the cooperation of all countries concerned,

1. *Values* the promotion of entrepreneurship in the development of small and medium-sized enterprises and industries by various actors throughout civil society, and of privatization, demonopolization and the simplification of administrative procedures;

2. *Invites* Member States, requests the Secretary-General and calls upon and encourages the relevant organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system to continue to foster active participation in support of entrepreneurship, privatization, demonopolization and the simplification of administrative procedures, as described in General Assembly resolution 48/180;

3. *Also invites* Member States, requests the Secretary-General and calls upon and encourages the relevant organs,

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[67] A/50/417.

[68] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.II.C.1.

[69] E/1979/104.

[70] See E/1991/31/Add.1.

[71] See *Proceedings of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, Eighth Session, Report and Annexes* (TD/364/Rev.1) (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.II.D.5), part one, sect. A, paras. 27 and 28.

[72] See E/1991/31/Add.1 and E/AC.67/L.3/Add.1.

organizations and programmes of the United Nations system, in their respective activities for the provision of infrastructure services, to encourage private-sector cost-effective involvement in the efficient construction, use and maintenance of infrastructure;

4. *Looks forward* to its resumed session in March and April 1996, during which it will examine public administration and development, and address the issues contained in its agenda, including the role of public administration in promoting partnership for development;

5. *Welcomes* the continuation of work on illicit payments in relevant international forums, including the United Nations, taking account of progress already achieved on that issue;

6. *Recommends* that the Economic and Social Council, at its organizational session of 1996, consider the appropriate time-frame and procedure for the continuation of the work with a view to completing the draft international agreement on illicit payments, including consideration of the draft at the substantive session of 1996 of the Council, and recommends that the Council report to the Assembly at its fifty-first session;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-second session, under the item "Sustainable development and international economic cooperation", a sub-item entitled "Business and development".

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50/107. Observance of the International Year for the Eradication of Poverty and proclamation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 43/195 of 20 December 1988, 44/212 of 22 December 1989, 45/213 of 21 December 1990, 46/141 of 17 December 1991, 47/197 of 22 December 1992, 48/184 of 21 December 1993 and 49/110 of 19 December 1994, all related to international cooperation for the eradication of poverty in developing countries,

Recalling its resolution 48/183 of 21 December 1993, in which it proclaimed 1996 International Year for the Eradication of Poverty,

Recalling also its resolution 49/110, in which it requested that a draft programme on the preparations for and observance of the Year be elaborated at an early date,

Emphasizing the necessity for Governments to focus their efforts and policies on addressing the root causes of poverty and providing for the basic needs of all,

Recognizing that the eradication of poverty requires ensuring universal access to economic opportunities that will promote sustainable livelihood and making basic efforts to facilitate access to opportunities and services for the disadvantaged, and that people living in poverty and vulnerable groups must be empowered through organization and social life, in particular in the planning and implementation of policies that affect them, thus enabling them to become genuine partners in development,

Also recognizing that economic development, social development and environmental protection are interdependent and mutually reinforcing components of sustainable development, which is the framework for efforts to achieve a higher quality of life for all people, and that equitable social development, which empowers people living in poverty to utilize environmental resources sustainably, is a necessary foundation for sustainable development,

Stressing the necessity to promote and implement policies to create a supportive external economic environment, through, *inter alia*, cooperation in the formulation and implementation of macroeconomic policies, trade liberalization, mobilization and/or the provision of new and additional financial resources that are both adequate and predictable and mobilized in a way that maximizes the availability of such resources for sustainable development, using all available funding sources and mechanisms, enhanced financial stability and ensuring increased access of developing countries to global markets, productive investments and technologies, and appropriate knowledge,

Also stressing that the United Nations system should play a central role in enhancing support and assistance for developing countries, in particular African countries and least developed countries, in their efforts to achieve the objectives set forth in the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and in the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development,[73] as well as in the major United Nations conferences organized since 1990 towards the eradication of poverty,

Emphasizing that empowering women will be a critical factor in the eradication of poverty, since women constitute a majority of people living in poverty and since they contribute to the economy and to combating poverty through both their remunerated and their unremunerated work at home, in the community and in the workplace,

Considering that the international community at the highest political level has already reached a consensus and committed itself to the eradication of poverty in recent major United Nations conferences, including the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, the International Conference on Population and Development, the Fourth World Conference on Women and in particular the World Summit for Social Development, which addressed the eradication of poverty as one of its three major themes, as well as the expected contributions from the forthcoming United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), the ninth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the World Food Summit,

Noting the importance attached at the summit meeting of seven major industrialized countries, held at Halifax, Canada, from 15 to 17 June 1995, in considering measures towards the eradication of poverty,[74]

Bearing in mind that Governments decided to adopt the appropriate measures and mechanisms for implementing and monitoring the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development, with the assistance, upon request, of the specialized agencies, programmes, funds and regional commissions of the United Nations system, with broad participation of all sectors of civil society,

Recalling the Copenhagen Declaration and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development, in particular paragraph 95 (*c*) of the Programme of Action, in which it is recommended that the General Assembly, at its fiftieth session, declare the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty, following the International Year for the Eradication of Poverty (1996), with a view to considering further initiatives on the eradication of poverty,

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[73] See A/CONF.166/9, chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[74] See A/50/254-S/1995/501; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fiftieth Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1995*, document S/1995/501.

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the draft programme for the observance of the International Year for the Eradication of Poverty[75] and on international cooperation for the eradication of poverty in developing countries,[76]

Taking note of the Secretary-General's proposal in response to resolution 49/110, that the theme of the International Year for the Eradication of Poverty be "Poverty can be and must be eradicated throughout the world",

I. OBSERVANCE OF THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR FOR THE ERADICATION OF POVERTY (1996)

1. *Urges* all Governments, the international community, including the United Nations system, and all other actors in society to pursue seriously the objective of the eradication of poverty within the context of the International Year for the Eradication of Poverty (1996);

2. *Reaffirms* that the activities for the observance of the Year shall be undertaken at all levels, and that assistance should be provided by the United Nations system with a view to creating among States, policy makers and international public opinion a greater awareness of the fact that the eradication of poverty is both a complex and multidimensional problem, and is fundamental to reinforcing peace and achieving sustainable development;

3. *Decides* that the aim of the activities during the Year shall be to support a longer-term, sustained effort to implement fully and effectively the commitments, recommendations and measures undertaken, and the basic provisions already agreed upon at major United Nations conferences since 1990, in particular the World Summit for Social Development[75] and the Fourth World Conference on Women;[77]

4. *Also decides* that, in order to achieve the goal of eradicating poverty, activities during the Year, at all levels, shall be guided, *inter alia*, by the following principles:

(*a*) A sustained, collective commitment and effort shall be mounted by Governments, local administrations, all relevant actors of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, business and corporations, supported by the international community, including the United Nations system and relevant subregional, regional and other international organizations, and anti-poverty strategies and programmes shall be designed, implemented and monitored with the full and effective participation of people living in poverty;

(*b*) Measures shall be adopted to ensure that people living in poverty have access to the resources and opportunities necessary to escape from poverty, and policies shall be adopted to ensure that all people have adequate economic and social protection during unemployment, ill health, maternity, child-rearing, widowhood, disability and old age;

(*c*) Access of all people living in poverty to basic social services shall be ensured, as well as their participation in the economic, social, cultural and political life of society;

(*d*) Women shall be given the economic and social opportunities to contribute to development, and anti-poverty strategies and programmes shall be designed with a gender dimension;

(*e*) Targeted programmes shall be developed to meet the special needs of particular social and demographic groups, including young people, disadvantaged older persons, persons with disabilities and other vulnerable and disadvantaged groups of persons;

(*f*) The international community shall provide continued and effective support to broad-based development in developing countries, in particular in Africa and the least developed countries;

(*g*) The efforts of the United Nations system to achieve the overall goal of eradicating poverty should be well coordinated in order to ensure that activities of relevant organizations are complementary and cost-effective;

5. *Recommends* that all States, as set out in the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and in the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development, undertake the following, preferably by 1996:

(*a*) Develop a precise definition and assessment of absolute poverty;

(*b*) Elaborate the measurements, criteria and indicators for determining the extent and distribution of absolute poverty;

(*c*) Formulate or strengthen, as a matter of urgency, national policies and strategies geared to substantially reducing overall poverty in the shortest possible time, reducing inequalities and eradicating absolute poverty by a target date to be specified by each country in its national context;

(*d*) Increase public efforts to eradicate absolute poverty and to reduce overall poverty substantially by, *inter alia*, formulating or strengthening and implementing national poverty eradication plans to address the structural causes of poverty, encompassing action on the local, national, subregional, regional and international levels;

(*e*) Attach particular attention, in the context of national plans, to employment creation as a means of eradicating poverty, while also giving appropriate consideration to health and education, assigning a higher priority to basic social services, generating household income and promoting access to productive assets and economic opportunities;

6. *Urges* Governments to review, adopt and maintain macroeconomic policies and development strategies that address the needs and efforts of women living in poverty, in particular in rural areas, as set out in paragraph 58 of the Platform for Action adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women;[77]

7. *Reaffirms* the agreement to a mutual commitment between interested developed and developing country partners to allocate, on average, 20 per cent of official development assistance and 20 per cent of the national budget, respectively, to basic social programmes;

8. *Stresses* that, during the Year and beyond, people living in poverty and their organizations should be empowered by being fully involved in the setting of targets and in the design, implementation, monitoring and assessment of national strategies and programmes for the eradication

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[75] A/50/551.

[76] A/50/396.

[77] See A/CONF.177/20, chap. I, resolution 1, annex I (Beijing Declaration) and annex II (Platform for Action).

of poverty and the development of community bases, ensuring that such programmes reflect their priorities;

9. *Notes* the activities for the observance of the Year planned by the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, as contained in the report of the Secretary-General,[77] and invites them to take further initiatives;

10. *Urges* multilateral financial and development institutions to intensify and accelerate their investments in social sectors and poverty eradication programmes;

11. *Takes note* of decision 95/22 of 16 June 1995 of the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme and of the United Nations Population Fund,[61] in which the Board decided to give poverty elimination the overriding priority in Programme activities and to concentrate its programmes on the most needy regions and countries, in particular the least developed countries, especially in Africa;

12. *Invites* all relevant specialized agencies, funds, programmes and related organizations of the United Nations system to strengthen and adjust their activities, programmes and strategies, as appropriate, in order to achieve the overall goal of eradicating poverty and meeting the basic human needs of all;

13. *Welcomes* the recent decision taken by the Administrative Committee on Coordination to establish task forces on different aspects of the follow-up to United Nations major conferences with a view to considering issues related to the eradication of poverty;[78]

14. *Takes note* of the decision taken by the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme to establish an eradication of poverty fund for the duration of the International Year for the Eradication of Poverty in order to help developing countries, in particular African countries and the least developed countries, in the elaboration of national plans during 1996 to combat poverty;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all relevant measures to arrange for the wide and effective dissemination of the present resolution and the programme for the observance of the Year, and in this regard invites all States, organizations of the United Nations system, relevant international organizations, concerned national organizations, non-governmental organizations and other interested groups of civil society to give the necessary attention to the observance of the Year;

II. FIRST UNITED NATIONS DECADE FOR THE ERADICATION OF POVERTY (1997-2006)

16. *Proclaims* the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006);

17. *Urges* all Governments and the international community, including the United Nations system, and all other actors in society to pursue effectively the implementation of the outcomes of major United Nations conferences related to the eradication of poverty, in particular the World Summit for Social Development;

18. *Welcomes* the arrangements, within the agreed appropriation level for the biennium 1996-1997, made by the Secretary-General regarding the entity within the Secretariat required to undertake the functions needed in support of the system-wide implementation of the International Year for the Eradication of Poverty, including activities of the Decade;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to invite those organs, organizations, programmes, funds and bodies of the United Nations system that have not already done so to consider the establishment of focal points and other similar mechanisms so that they may effectively implement the provisions, agreements and outcomes of major United Nations conferences relevant to the eradication of poverty;

20. *Recalls* the coordinating role of the Economic and Social Council in the activities of the United Nations system towards eradication of poverty in the context of the coordinated follow-up of the outcome of the major United Nations conferences and summits organized since 1990 in the economic, social and related fields;

21. *Stresses* the importance of ensuring, at the intergovernmental and inter-agency levels, coherent, comprehensive and integrated activities for the Year and Decade, according to the outcome of the major United Nations conferences and summits organized since 1990 in the economic, social and related fields;

22. *Invites* the Administrative Committee on Coordination to ensure, in particular through the inter-agency task forces, the involvement and coordination of all relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system for a full and effective implementation of the present resolution and to submit to the General Assembly, at its fifty-first session, through the Economic and Social Council, reports on activities envisaged in support of the Decade, taking into account the outcome of the major United Nations conferences and summits organized since 1990 in the economic, social and related fields;

23. *Calls upon* States, the United Nations system, relevant international organizations and all other actors concerned with the Decade to participate actively in the financial and technical support of the Decade, in particular with a view to translating all measures and recommendations into operational and concrete poverty eradication programmes and activities;

24. *Decides* that the trust fund of the World Summit for Social Development established in accordance with General Assembly resolution 47/92 of 16 December 1992 to finance preparatory activities be continued and renamed the Trust Fund for the Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development, under the authority of the Secretary-General, with the aim of supporting programmes, seminars and activities for the promotion of social development in the implementation of the Copenhagen Declaration and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development, which include activities of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty, and invites all States to contribute to the Fund;

25. *Requests*, therefore, that the Secretary-General ensure that the outcomes of major United Nations conferences are disseminated as widely as possible and also to ensure that the documents related to the Year and the Decade, once adopted, are transmitted to all States, relevant international and regional organizations, multilateral financial institutions and regional development banks in order to secure their active and substantial contributions;

26. *Recommends* that donor countries give greater priority to the eradication of poverty in their assistance programmes and budgets, on either a bilateral or multilateral basis;

27. *Encourages* developing countries to mobilize domestic and external resources for poverty eradication pro-

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[78] See ACC/1995/23.

grammes and activities, and to facilitate their full and effective implementation;

28. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session, in one document, a progress report on action taken by the United Nations system to implement the programme for the observance of the Year and action envisaged to be taken in preparation for the Decade;

29. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session an item entitled "First United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006)".

96th plenary meeting
20 December 1995

50/108. United Nations initiative on opportunity and participation

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 48/60 of 14 December 1993 and its decision 49/434 of 19 December 1994 on a United Nations initiative on opportunity and participation,

Reaffirming that one of the fundamental prerequisites of the achievement of sustainable development is broad-based public participation in decision-making,

Acknowledging the relevance of opportunity and participation in the economic and social development agenda of the United Nations, as reflected in the various international conferences and agreements related to the follow-up of the Rio process,

Commending the South Pacific Forum Vision Statement,[79] adopted by the Twenty-sixth South Pacific Forum, held at Madang, Papua New Guinea, from 13 to 15 September 1995, which promotes opportunities for international and regional cooperation leading to growth with equity, broad-based participation and capacity-building for self-reliance,

Noting that the United Nations Panel on Opportunity and Participation met at United Nations Headquarters from 15 to 19 May 1995,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the United Nations Panel on Opportunity and Participation;[80]

2. *Takes note* of the Panel's contribution to the completion of an agenda for development and the follow-up arrangements to the World Summit for Social Development, held at Copenhagen from 6 to 12 March 1995;

3. *Invites* Member States and relevant organizations and agencies of the United Nations system to consider the insights and the recommendations of the Panel, particularly the sections of its report related to the efforts to be made for the development of small and medium-sized enterprises in developing countries as an effective measure for promoting opportunity and participation in the context of national development and the economic and social development of all peoples;

4. *Invites* the Commission for Sustainable Development, in the overall framework of trade, environment and sustainable development, alleviating poverty and promoting sustainable agriculture and rural development and small-scale fisheries development, to draw upon the work of the Panel;

5. *Invites* the Committee for Development Planning, in accordance with its mandate, to take into account the recommendations of the Panel in its work in 1996 in the context of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade;[16]

6. *Encourages* the relevant agencies and organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme and the regional commissions, to increase their efforts to promote opportunity and participation, and to develop those concepts and incorporate them into their strategies and programmes, including regional and national workshops and seminars;

7. *Invites* Member States and international organizations to make voluntary contributions to these efforts;

8. *Encourages* support for the widest possible dissemination of the report of the Panel to the international community.

96th plenary meeting
20 December 1995

50/109. World Food Summit

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the inalienable right to be free from hunger and malnutrition, as proclaimed in the Universal Declaration on the Eradication of Hunger and Malnutrition,[81]

Conscious that, despite the progress that has been made in ensuring global food availability, eight hundred million people remain chronically undernourished and about two hundred million children under age five suffer from protein and energy deficiencies,

Convinced of the urgent need, at the highest political level, to marshal the global consensus and commitment required for the eradication of hunger and malnutrition and the achievement of food security for all, through the adoption of concerted policies and a plan of action for implementation by Governments, international institutions and all sectors of civil society,

Recalling the contributions to international consensus achieved by the World Food Conference[82] in 1974, the World Summit for Children[83] in 1990, the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development[84] and the International Conference on Nutrition[85] in 1992, the International Conference on Population and Development[86] in 1994, and the World Summit for Social Development[87] and the Fourth World Conference on Women[88] in 1995, as well as the agreements made at other international conferences and summits in recent years,

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[79] A/50/475, annex, appendix II.

[80] A/50/501, annex. See also A/50/501/Add.1.

[81] *Report of the World Food Conference, Rome, 5-16 November 1974* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.75.II.A.3), chap. I.

[82] See *Report of the World Food Conference, Rome, 5-16 November 1974* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.75.II.A.3).

[83] See *First Call for Children* (New York, United Nations Children's Fund, 1990).

[84] See *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992* (A/CONF.151/26/Rev.1 (Vol. I and Vol. I/Corr.1, Vol. II, Vol. III and Vol. III/ Corr.1)) (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annexes I-III.

[85] See *International Conference on Nutrition, Rome, December 1992, Final Report of the Conference. World Declaration and Plan of Action for Nutrition* (Rome, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, 1992).

[86] See *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994* (A/CONF.171/13/Rev.1) (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18).

[87] See A/CONF.166/9.

[88] See A/CONF.177/20 and Add.1.

Recognizing that activities to ensure food security at all levels should be carried out within the framework of sustainable development, as defined in Agenda 21,[43] and that the World Food Summit will give due attention to the multifaceted nature of food security,

Bearing in mind the proposal of the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations that the Summit should not call for new funding mechanisms or institutions,

1. *Welcomes* the decision of the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations at its twenty-eighth session to convene the World Food Summit at Rome from 13 to 17 November 1996 at the level of heads of State or Government;

2. *Invites* Governments to participate actively in Summit preparations and to be represented at the level of heads of State or Government;

3. *Invites* all relevant United Nations and other intergovernmental organizations, including international and regional financial institutions, as well as non-governmental organizations and the private sector, to cooperate actively with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in preparing for the Summit;

4. *Invites* the international community to make contributions on a voluntary basis to the special trust fund established by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in order to facilitate the preparations for and the holding of the Summit as well as to facilitate the preparations for effective participation of representatives of developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, both at the sessions of the Committee on World Food Security of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to be held in January and September 1996 as preparatory meetings and at the Summit itself;

5. *Invites* the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to submit to the General Assembly, at its fifty-second session, through the Economic and Social Council, a report on the outcome of the Summit, including actions to be taken to follow up the outcome of the Summit at all appropriate levels.

96th plenary meeting
20 December 1995

50/110. Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, in which it decided to establish the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme,

Recalling also its resolution 47/191 of 22 December 1992, in which it endorsed the recommendations on international institutional arrangements to follow up the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, as contained in chapter 38 of Agenda 21,[43] in which, *inter alia*, the need for a strengthened role for the United Nations Environment Programme and its Governing Council was stressed and priority areas on which the Programme should concentrate were elaborated,

Having considered the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its eighteenth session,[89] the report of the Secretary-General on the strengthening of the Programme,[90] the note by the Secretary-General on the activities of the Programme in environmental monitoring,[91] and the note by the Secretary-General on international conventions and protocols in the field of the environment,[92]

1. *Endorses* the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its eighteenth session[89] and the decisions contained therein;[93]

2. *Recognizes*, in particular, Governing Council decisions 18/1 on the role and priorities of the United Nations Environment Programme, 18/5 on the in-depth evaluation of the programme on environment and 18/7 on environment and sustainable development, all of 26 May 1995, and decision 18/10 of 25 May 1995 on good environmental housekeeping within the United Nations system;[93]

3. *Requests* the Governing Council to prepare a report on the role and activities of the United Nations Environment Programme in the implementation of Agenda 21, in accordance with its mandate, and to submit that report to the General Assembly at its special session on the overall review and appraisal of the implementation of Agenda 21;

4. *Notes* the importance of sufficient and timely contributions to the Environment Fund, and calls upon Governments to make contributions in a timely fashion in order to allow for the full and effective implementation of the work programmes;

5. *Welcomes* the efforts of the United Nations Environment Programme to promote maximum and cost-effective utilization of the conference facilities at its headquarters at Nairobi, and calls upon Governments and relevant intergovernmental bodies to support such efforts to ensure optimum utilization of the capacity of all United Nations conference facilities;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to inform the General Assembly at its fifty-second session on the implementation of the present resolution.

96th plenary meeting
20 December 1995

50/111. Convention on Biological Diversity

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 49/117 on the Convention on Biological Diversity and 49/119 on the International Day for Biological Diversity, of 19 December 1994,

Recalling the Convention on Biological Diversity,[94]

Recalling also Agenda 21,[18] particularly its chapter 15 on the conservation of biological diversity, and related chapters,

Recalling further the recommendations made at the third session of the Commission on Sustainable Development on the review of chapter 15 of Agenda 21 on the conservation of biological diversity,[95]

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[89] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/50/25).

[90] A/50/171.

[91] A/50/371.

[92] A/C.2/50/2.

[93] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/50/25), annex.*

[94] See United Nations Environment Programme, *Convention on Biological Diversity* (Environmental Law and Institution Programme Activity Centre), June 1992.

Deeply concerned by the continuing loss of the world's biological diversity and, on the basis of the provisions of the Convention, reiterating the commitment to the conservation of biological diversity, and the sustainable use of its components, as well as the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the use of genetic resources,

1. *Welcomes* the results of the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, held at Nassau from 28 November to 9 December 1994, as reflected in the report of the Executive Secretary of the Convention,[96] submitted in accordance with paragraph 4 of General Assembly resolution 49/117;

2. *Takes note* that the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity has decided to accept the offer of the Government of Canada to host the secretariat of the Convention, and expresses its appreciation for the support offered by the Canadian authorities to ensure the effective functioning of the secretariat;

3. *Also takes note* of the results of the first meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, held at the headquarters of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in Paris from 4 to 8 September 1995, including its medium-term programme of work for 1996-1997 and its contribution to the Open-ended Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Panel on Forests of the Commission on Sustainable Development;

4. *Calls upon* those States that have not yet ratified the Convention to expedite their internal procedures of ratification, acceptance or approval;

5. *Invites* the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity to report, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session on the results of the second meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, held at Jakarta from 6 to 17 November 1995, and also invites the Secretary to make the reports of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention available to the Commission on Sustainable Development.

96th plenary meeting
20 December 1995

50/112. Elaboration of an international convention to combat desertification in those countries experiencing serious drought and/or desertification, particularly in Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 44/172 of 19 December 1989 and 44/228 of 22 December 1989 and its other relevant resolutions and decisions, and the recommendations made in Agenda 21,[43] adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development,

Recalling also its resolution 47/188 of 22 December 1992, by which it decided to establish the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for the Elaboration of an International Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa,

Recalling further its resolution 49/234 of 23 December 1994, in which it decided that the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee should continue to function in order, *inter alia*, to prepare for the first session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, as specified in the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa,[97]

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 49/234[98] and on possible requirements for intergovernmental and secretariat work on the implementation of the Convention and its regional implementation annexes,[99] and having also considered Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee resolution 7/1 of 17 August 1995[100] on dates and venue of the sessions of the Committee during the period up to and including the first session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention,

Expressing its concern about the present level of the Special Voluntary Fund for participation in the negotiation process of developing countries affected by desertification and drought, in particular the least developed countries,

Noting that the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee has established two working groups in order to be able to discharge its responsibilities in the preparation for the first session of the Conference of Parties to the Convention,

Also expressing its concern about the present level of the Trust Fund, established pursuant to its resolution 47/188, to support the work of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee and the interim secretariat,

Considering that the Convention is one of the main steps in the implementation and follow-up to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development,

1. *Welcomes* the signing of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa,[96] by a large number of States and one regional economic integration organization and the ratification of the Convention by a growing number of States, and urges States that have not yet signed or ratified the Convention to do so, so that it may enter into force as soon as possible;

2. *Decides* that the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for the Elaboration of an International Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa, shall continue to prepare for the first session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention as specified in the Convention;

3. *Also decides*, for this purpose, to convene two sessions of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee in 1996, each of up to two weeks' duration, the eighth session to be held at Geneva from 5 to 16 February and the ninth session in New York from 3 to 13 September;

4. *Further decides* to convene the tenth session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee, which is to be held in New York from 6 to 17 January 1997 and, pending

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[95] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1995, Supplement No. 12 (E/1995/32), chap. I, para. 230 (i).*

[96] A/50/218.

[97] A/49/84/Add.2, annex, appendix II.

[98] A/50/515.

[99] A/50/347.

[100] See A/50/74/Add.1, annex, appendix II.

the entry into force of the Convention, to convene, as necessary, a further session of the Committee in 1997, of up to two weeks' duration, the exact dates and venue of which shall be determined at a later stage;

5. *Recommends* that, upon the entry into force of the Convention, a session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention be convened in the second and third weeks of June 1997 or, alternatively, in the second and third weeks of August 1997, the exact dates and venue of the session to be determined at a later stage;

6. *Requests* all countries, the United Nations system, including the regional commissions, relevant subregional and regional organizations, appropriate scientific and business communities, trade unions, relevant non-governmental organizations and other interested groups, to take action for the prompt implementation of the Convention and its relevant regional implementation annexes[101] upon its entry into force and in this regard to respond effectively to the needs in the African, Asian and Latin American and Caribbean regions;

7. *Urges* all countries, the United Nations system, including the regional commissions, relevant subregional and regional organizations and all other relevant actors to undertake actions and measures for the full and effective implementation of the provisions of Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee resolution 5/1 of 17 June 1994 on urgent action for Africa,[102] as well as to promote actions for other affected developing countries and regions, and invites all States to continue to communicate to the interim secretariat of the Convention, in addition to the information they have already provided, information on actions undertaken and/or envisaged for the implementation of the provisions of resolution 5/1;

8. *Decides* that the work of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee and the interim secretariat shall continue to be funded through existing United Nations budgetary resources, without negatively affecting its programmed activities, and through voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund established pursuant to General Assembly resolution 47/188 specifically for that purpose and administered by the head of the interim secretariat under the authority of the Secretary-General, with the possibility of using the Fund, as appropriate, to support the participation of representatives of non-governmental organizations in the work of the Committee and of carrying over resources contributed from one fiscal year to the other;

9. *Urges* States, regional economic integration organizations and other interested organizations to reinforce the capacity of the interim secretariat of the Convention through substantial contributions to the Trust Fund;

10. *Renews its appeals* to Governments, regional economic integration organizations and other interested organizations, including non-governmental organizations, to make early contributions to the Special Voluntary Fund in order to ensure an enhanced effective participation in the negotiation process of developing countries affected by desertification and/or drought, in particular the least developed countries;

11. *Notes* the arrangements and contributions made by the Secretary-General and relevant organizations active in the fields of desertification, drought and development, including the United Nations Development Programme/Office to Combat Desertification and Drought,[103] the United Nations Environment Programme, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the World Bank, as regards the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee and the interim secretariat in the conduct of their mandate, and invites them to intensify and expand such support and collaboration in the future, as appropriate;

12. *Also notes* the arrangements concluded between the interim secretariat of the Convention and the International Fund for Agricultural Development and the World Meteorological Organization, whereby appropriate actions are taken for an active collaboration and support of activities at the national and regional levels in affected developing countries, in particular those in Africa, and the least developed countries;

13. *Requests* the Chairman of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee to submit progress reports on the work of the Committee to the General Assembly, the Commission on Sustainable Development and other appropriate bodies of the United Nations;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all Governments, the relevant specialized agencies and programmes of the United Nations, international financial institutions, other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other relevant institutions;

15. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session a report on the implementation of the present resolution relative to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa, under the item entitled "Implementation of decisions and recommendations of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development".

96th plenary meeting
20 December 1995

50/113. Special session for the purpose of an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of Agenda 21

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 47/190 of 22 December 1992, in which it decided to convene a special session, not later than 1997, for the purpose of an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of Agenda 21,[18]

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General containing proposals on the format, scope and organizational aspects of such a special session,[104]

1. *Decides* to convene the special session envisaged in resolution 47/190 for a duration of one week during the month of June 1997 at the highest possible level of participation;

2. *Encourages* participants at the high-level meeting of

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[101] A/49/84/Add.2, annex, appendix II, annexes I-IV.

[102] See A/49/84/Add.2, annex, appendix III, sect. A.

[103] Formerly, United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office (UNSO). The acronym UNSO is retained with the new name.

[104] A/50/453.

the Commission on Sustainable Development to be held during its fourth session, in 1996, to address, *inter alia*, matters related to the special session of the General Assembly decided on above;

3. *Invites* the Commission to devote its Ad Hoc Open-ended Inter-Sessional Working Group meeting, to be held in February 1997, to assisting the Commission in undertaking the review for the special session;

4. *Welcomes* the decision of the Commission to devote its fifth session, in 1997, to preparations for the special session, and decides that session of the Commission will be open-ended in its deliberations, allowing for the full participation of all States;

5. *Invites* the Commission to make available to the General Assembly at the special session all relevant reports prepared under the aegis of the Commission, along with the recommendations of the Commission thereon;

6. *Welcomes* the decisions of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, in which the Council emphasized the need for the Programme, in accordance with its mandate in the implementation of Agenda 21, to continue to provide effective support to the work of the Commission on Sustainable Development, and in which the Council decided to hold its nineteenth session early in 1997 with a view to making a contribution to the special session;

7. *Invites* Governments as well as relevant regional and subregional organizations to consider undertaking reviews of progress achieved since the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development at the national, subregional, regional and interregional levels with a view to contributing to the preparations for the special session;

8. *Welcomes* the preparation of hemispheric, regional and subregional conferences on sustainable development, and in that context invites the Governments concerned to contribute to the special session the outcomes of such conferences;

9. *Also invites* all other relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, including the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the specialized agencies and other multilateral organizations, including the multilateral financial institutions and the World Trade Organization, to contribute to the special session, and requests the Inter-Agency Committee on Sustainable Development, in close coordination with the Commission on Sustainable Development, to ensure an effective and coordinated system-wide response to the preparation of the special session;

10. *Further invites* the conferences of parties or other regulatory bodies of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa, as well as the regulatory bodies of other relevant instruments, as appropriate, and the Global Environment Facility, to provide their inputs to the special session;

11. *Recognizes* the important role played by major groups, including non-governmental organizations, at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and in the implementation of its recommendations, and recognizes the need for their active involvement in preparations for the special session, as well as the need to ensure appropriate arrangements for their contribution during the special session;

12. *Invites* Governments to assist the developing countries, in particular the least developed among them, in participating fully and effectively in the special session and its preparatory process, and in that regard invites them to make appropriate contributions to the Trust Fund to Support the Work of the Commission on Sustainable Development;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare, for the consideration of the Commission on Sustainable Development at its fifth session, a comprehensive report containing an overall assessment of the progress achieved since the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in the implementation of Agenda 21 at all levels, and in the implementation of related outcomes, as well as recommendations for future actions and priorities, and requests that the report include:

(*a*) Concise reports containing an assessment of the progress achieved in specific sectoral and cross-sectoral areas;

(*b*) Country profiles providing a concise presentation of progress made and constraints encountered in implementing Agenda 21 at the national level, compiled on the basis of national information received and in close cooperation with the Governments concerned;

(*c*) Major and emerging trends and issues within the framework of Agenda 21 and related outcomes of the Conference in the area of sustainable development, including the environmental impact of activities that are gravely hazardous to the environment, taking into account the views of States;

(*d*) Recommendations on the future role of the Commission in the follow-up to the outcome of the Conference and related outcomes, building on experience gained since 1992;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to mount a public information programme to raise global awareness of both the special session to review the implementation of Agenda 21 and the work undertaken by the United Nations in the follow-up to the Conference;

15. *Decides* that the preparations for the special session and the special session itself shall be kept within the agreed appropriation level for the 1996-1997 biennium;

16. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session a sub-item entitled "Special session for the purpose of an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of Agenda 21", and requests the Secretary-General to submit to it at that session a progress report on the state of preparations for the 1997 special session.

96th plenary meeting
20 December 1995

50/114. Desertification and drought

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 48/175 of 21 December 1993 in which it recalled the decisions of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development set forth in chapter 12 of Agenda 21,[43] entitled "Managing fragile ecosystems: combating desertification and drought", and took note of the recommendation contained in paragraph 38.27 of Agenda 21 and of decision 93/33 of 18 June 1993 of the

Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme,[105]

Noting the work being undertaken by the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for the Elaboration of an International Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa,

Referring to its resolution 48/175, in which it recalled the appeals to the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Environment Programme to continue and strengthen their cooperation in combating desertification, notably through support for the Office to Combat Desertification and Drought [103] by the joint venture programme,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of its resolution 48/175,[99]

Expressing its concern at the present level of resources available to relevant United Nations bodies, including the Office to Combat Desertification and Drought of the United Nations Development Programme, to support activities to combat desertification and mitigate the effects of drought in all affected developing countries and regions,

1. *Welcomes* the efforts made by the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Development Programme to strengthen their cooperation in combating desertification through the United Nations Environment Programme/United Nations Development Programme partnership to combat desertification;

2. *Renews its appeal* to Governments, regional economic integration organizations and other interested organizations, as well as non-governmental organizations, to make contributions to relevant United Nations bodies, including the Office to Combat Desertification and Drought of the United Nations Development Programme, to strengthen their capacity to support activities to combat desertification and mitigate the effects of drought in all affected developing countries and regions;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, which would be considered under one unified sub-item on the agenda entitled "Implementation of decisions and recommendations of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development", under the item entitled "Environment and sustainable development".

96th plenary meeting
20 December 1995

50/115. Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 45/212 of 21 December 1990, 46/169 of 19 December 1991, 47/195 of 22 December 1992, 48/189 of 21 December 1993 and 49/120 of 19 December 1994,

Noting with satisfaction that a large number of States and one regional economic integration organization have ratified the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[106] and calling upon other States to take appropriate action to that end,

Noting that, in accordance with paragraphs 1 and 2 of General Assembly resolution 48/189, the first session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change was convened from 28 March to 7 April 1995 in Berlin, and that it was attended by one hundred and sixteen of the then one hundred and eighteen Parties to the Convention, as well as by a large number of governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental observers,

Expressing its deep appreciation to the Government of Germany for the generous manner in which it hosted the first session of the Conference of the Parties,

Looking forward to the ongoing work of the Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies in addressing climate change within the framework of the Convention and to the successful conclusion of the Berlin Mandate[107] process at the third session of the Conference of the Parties,

Noting the important scientific contribution of the World Meteorological Organization/United Nations Environment Programme Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change to the Convention process and looking forward to the completion of its second assessment report,

Recognizing the contribution to the Convention process of the interim secretariat of the Convention, within the framework of the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development of the Secretariat, as well as the support provided to that secretariat by the World Meteorological Organization, the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Development Programme and bilateral contributors,

Taking note of the advice of the Secretary-General on an institutional linkage for the secretariat of the Convention with the United Nations, including the procedures indicated therein for the application of the Financial Regulations and the Staff Regulations and Staff Rules of the United Nations and for the appointment and accountability of the head of that secretariat,[108]

Taking note also of the decision of the Conference of the Parties,[109] on the basis of the advice of the Secretary-General, that the Convention secretariat shall be institutionally linked to the United Nations, while not being fully integrated into the work programme and management structure of any particular department or programme,

Taking note further of the financial procedures for the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, its subsidiary bodies and its permanent secretariat adopted at its first session,[110] whereby, *inter alia*, the Secretary-General is asked to establish trust funds for the purposes of the Convention, to be managed by the head of the Convention secretariat in accordance with duly delegated authority,

Taking note further of the decision of the Conference of the Parties[109] whereby the General Assembly is requested, bearing in mind the institutional linkage of the Convention secretariat to the United Nations and the large number of States that are Parties to the Convention, to decide to finance from the regular programme budget of the United Nations the conference-servicing costs arising from sessions of the Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies for the duration of the institutional linkage mentioned above,

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[105] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1993, Supplement No. 15* (E/1993/35), annex I.

[106] A/AC.237/18 (Part II)/Add.1 and Corr.1, annex I.

[107] FCCC/CP/1995/7/Add.1, decision 1/CP.1.

[108] See A/AC.237/79/Add.1; FCCC/CP/1995/5/Add.4; and A/50/716, para. 49.

[109] FCCC/CP/1995/7/Add.1, decision 14/CP.1.

[110] Ibid., decision 15/CP.1, annex I.

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 49/120, with particular reference to the implications arising from the report of the Conference of the Parties on its first session,[111]

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of:

(*a*) The report of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee on a Framework Convention on Climate Change on its eleventh session;[112]

(*b*) The final report prepared on behalf of the Committee, by its Chairman, on the completion of the Committee's work;[113]

(*c*) The report of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on its first session[114] and its presentation on behalf of the President of the Conference;

2. *Endorses* the institutional linkage between the Convention secretariat and the United Nations, as advised by the Secretary-General and adopted by the Conference of the Parties;[109]

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to review the functioning of this institutional linkage not later than 31 December 1999, in consultation with the Conference of the Parties, with a view to making such modifications as may be considered desirable by both parties and to report thereon to the General Assembly;

4. *Notes* that the Conference of the Parties has decided to accept the offer of the Government of Germany to host the Convention secretariat[115] and expresses its appreciation for the support offered by the future host Government for the relocation and effective functioning of the Convention secretariat;

5. *Notes with appreciation* contributions made to the extrabudgetary funds established under paragraphs 10 and 20 of General Assembly resolution 45/212, and maintained in accordance with its resolution 47/195;

6. *Urges* Member States that are Parties to the Convention to pay promptly and in full for each of the years 1996 and 1997, in accordance with the indicative scale adopted by consensus by the Conference of the Parties,[116] the contributions required for the trust fund for the core budget of the Convention envisaged in paragraph 13 of its financial procedures, so as to ensure continuity in the cash flow required to finance the ongoing work of the Conference of the Parties, the subsidiary bodies and the Convention secretariat;

7. *Calls upon* Member States that are Parties to the Convention to also contribute generously to the trust fund for participation in the Convention process envisaged in paragraph 15 of its financial procedures, as well as to the trust funds envisaged for supplementary activities under the Convention;[117]

8. *Decides* to include in the calendar of conferences and meetings for 1996-1997 the sessions of the Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies envisaged for that biennium entailing twelve weeks of conference-servicing facilities;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make the necessary arrangements to include in the calendar of conferences and meetings for the biennium 1998-1999 those sessions of the Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies that the Conference may need to convene in that period;

10. *Takes note* of the transitional arrangement for administrative support to the Convention secretariat, outlined in the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 49/120, with particular reference to the implications arising from the report of the Conference of the Parties, on its first session,[118] which should facilitate the establishment and relocation of the Convention secretariat and assist it in addressing any initial financial and personnel problems that may be encountered within this context, and also takes note of the financing arrangements contained in paragraphs 8 and 9 above, and requests the Secretary-General to review these arrangements towards the end of the biennium 1996-1997 and to report upon the results of this review to the Assembly at its fifty-second session;

11. *Notes* that the Secretary-General intends:

(*a*) To transfer the end-1995 balance in the trust fund for the negotiating process established under paragraph 20 of General Assembly resolution 45/212 into the trust fund for the core budget of the Convention envisaged in paragraph 13 of its financial procedures;

(*b*) To transfer the end-1995 balance in the special voluntary fund for participation in the negotiating process established under paragraph 10 of the same resolution into the trust fund for participation in the Convention process envisaged in paragraph 15 of the aforementioned financial procedures;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session on the implementation of the present resolution;

13. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session the item entitled "Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind".

96th plenary meeting
20 December 1995

50/116. Implementation of the outcome of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 49/122 of 19 December 1994 on the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,

Recalling also its resolution 49/100 of 19 December 1994 on specific measures in favour of island developing countries,

Reaffirming that, because the development options of small island developing States are limited, there are special challenges to devising and implementing sustainable development plans, and that small island developing States will be constrained in meeting such challenges without the cooperation of the international community,

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[111] A/50/716.

[112] A/AC.237/91 and Add.1.

[113] A/50/536, annex.

[114] FCCC/CP/1995/7 and Add.1.

[115] FCCC/CP/1995/7/Add.1, decision 16/CP.1.

[116] Ibid., decision 15/CP.1, annex II.

[117] Ibid., decision 15/CP.1, annex I, and decision 18/CP.1.

[118] A/50/716, paras. 36-38.

1. *Takes notes with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General[119] on action taken by the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to implement the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[57] and welcomes in particular the action that has been taken by the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development of the United Nations Secretariat to support the system-wide implementation of the Programme of Action;

2. *Notes* the establishment of the Small Island Developing States Unit within the above-mentioned Department, and requests the Secretary-General to maintain the level of staffing and the structure and organization of the Unit in accordance with General Assembly resolution 49/122;

3. *Welcomes* the action that has been taken to enable the regional commissions to support activities to coordinate the outcome of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States;

4. *Takes note* of the interim measures that have been instituted to strengthen the capacity of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to enable it to complement the functions of the above-mentioned Department with respect to the implementation of the Programme of Action, and requests the Secretary-General to implement fully the relevant provisions of resolution 49/122;

5. *Calls upon* Governments, as well as the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, other intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations, to continue to implement fully all the commitments and recommendations that were made at the Global Conference, and to continue to take the action necessary for effective follow-up to the Programme of Action, including action to ensure the provision of the means of implementation under chapter XV thereof;

6. *Welcomes*, in particular, the progress made by the United Nations Development Programme in implementing resolution 49/122, and invites the Programme to continue to implement all the provisions of both the technical assistance programme and the information network for small island developing States, as appropriate;

7. *Takes note* of the support that has been provided by the Commission on Sustainable Development[120] to following up the implementation of the Programme of Action in accordance with resolution 49/122 and the Programme of Action itself, and invites the Commission at its fourth session to consider giving due attention to small island developing States in the national presentations on coastal zone management;

8. *Notes* the initial action that has been taken by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and by the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development in preparation for the high-level panel that is being convened to discuss the challenges faced by island developing countries, particularly in the area of external trade, and invites the Conference and the Department to complete their arrangements in time for the fourth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development, and to make the report of the panel available to the Conference at its ninth session;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the Small Island Developing States Unit of the above-mentioned Department include in its work programme, along with an indication of the resources of its activities and programmes, provision for the development and compilation of a vulnerability index for small island developing States, to be prepared in collaboration with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and other relevant organizations;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session a report on the plans, programmes and projects for the sustainable development of small island developing States that have been implemented in response to the Programme of Action, as well as those that are under implementation and those that are envisaged for implementation within five years of the date of the report;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session, under the item entitled "Environment and sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States";

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session a report on action taken to implement the present resolution.

96th plenary meeting
20 December 1995

50/117. International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction

A

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 44/236 of 22 December 1989, 48/188 of 21 December 1993, 49/22 A of 2 December 1994 and 49/22 B of 20 December 1994,

Expressing its solidarity with the people and countries that suffer as a result of natural disasters,

Emphasizing once again the urgent need for concrete measures to reduce the vulnerability of societies to natural hazards, the loss of human lives and the heavy physical and economic damage that occur as a result of natural disasters, in particular in developing countries, small island States and land-locked countries,

Reiterating the validity of the conclusions of the first World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction, held at Yokohama, Japan, from 23 to 27 May 1994, in particular with regard to its call for increased bilateral, subregional, regional and multilateral cooperation in the field of disaster prevention, preparedness and mitigation,[121]

Commending those countries, national and local institutions, organizations and associations that have adopted policies, allocated resources and initiated action programmes, including international assistance, for disaster reduction and, in this context, welcoming the participation of private companies and individuals,

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[119] A/50/422 and Add.1.

[120] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1995, Supplement No. 12* (E/1995/32).

[121] See A/CONF.172/9, chap. I.

Also commending all countries and intergovernmental and regional organizations that have actively engaged in regional and subregional assessments of vulnerability to natural hazards and have consequently initiated regional and subregional cooperation in the field of disaster reduction, including the exchange of data and technology, as well as the development of joint administrative, technological and scientific approaches for applied disaster reduction,

Further commending those organizations of the United Nations system and other international organizations, scientific associations and non-governmental organizations which, in accordance with decisions of their governing bodies, have incorporated the recommendations of the General Assembly relating to disaster reduction and those of the World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction in their programmes of work, thus contributing towards effective progress in disaster reduction in their mandated responsibilities and respective fields of activity, including the allocation of budgetary resources for disaster reduction,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General[122] concerning the specific measures for the implementation of the Yokohama Strategy for a Safer World: Guidelines for Natural Disaster Prevention, Preparedness and Mitigation and its Plan of Action, and requests the secretariat of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction to continue to promote and monitor their translation into concrete activities, in close cooperation with all bodies comprising the International Framework of Action for the Decade,[123] so as to ensure timely and effective implementation;

2. *Commends* those developing and least developed countries that have mobilized domestic resources for disaster reduction activities and have facilitated the effective implementation of such activities, and encourages all developing countries concerned to continue in this direction;

3. *Recommends* that all countries, with appropriate support, continue to study conventional and non-conventional ways and means of financing disaster reduction measures, both at the national level and with respect to subregional, regional and international technical cooperation;

4. *Calls upon* Member States, relevant intergovernmental bodies and all others involved in the Decade to participate actively in the financial and technical support of Decade activities, in order to ensure the implementation of the International Framework of Action for the Decade, in particular with a view to translating the Yokohama Strategy and the Plan of Action contained therein into concrete disaster reduction programmes and activities;

5. *Requests* the Commission on Sustainable Development to pay appropriate attention at its fourth session to the issue of disaster reduction when considering the relevant chapters of Agenda 21[18] and of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States;[57]

6. *Welcomes* the measures proposed by the Secretary-General to bring the International Framework of Action for the Decade into line with the Yokohama Strategy and its Plan of Action, in order to provide disaster reduction activities worldwide and regionally with authoritative and effective programme guidance so as to ensure stronger cohesion of disaster reduction programmes and the joint participation of concerned sectors in their implementation;

7. *Notes* the initiative for an informal mechanism between the secretariat of the Decade and Member States, intended to facilitate and support the promotion of Decade activities and the regular exchange of information between Governments, organizations of the United Nations system and other organizations;

8. *Welcomes*, in pursuance of its resolution 49/22 A, the restructuring of the Special High-Level Council and the Scientific and Technical Committee for the Decade so that for the second half of the Decade they will provide the necessary support to global, regional and national policy and strategy development, public awareness-building and resource mobilization, and at the same time provide links with the scientific community and support the national committees for the Decade and national authorities in their cooperative efforts to integrate disaster reduction programmes into national activities for sustainable development;

9. *Endorses* the decision of the Secretary-General to extend until the end of the Decade the mandate of the United Nations Steering Committee for the Decade, established in pursuance of General Assembly resolutions 42/169 of 11 December 1987 and 44/236;

10. *Emphasizes* that effective and efficient coordination and servicing of the above-mentioned components of the International Framework of Action for the Decade require a financially and structurally stable secretariat of the Decade, reporting to the Secretary-General through the Emergency Relief Coordinator;

11. *Decides*, in pursuance of its resolution 49/22 A, to convene a closing event of the Decade, through coordinated sectoral and cross-sectoral meetings at all levels, in order to facilitate the full integration of disaster reduction into the substantive efforts for sustainable development and environmental protection by the year 2000;

12. *Decides also* that the secretariat of the Decade will serve as the substantive secretariat for the preparation of the closing event of the Decade, working with the full support of relevant bodies of the United Nations Secretariat and drawing on the contributions of the organizations of the United Nations system concerned, other international organizations and Governments;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the availability of resources for the preparatory process, including the necessary enhancement of the capacity of the secretariat, and to appeal for additional voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund for the Decade;

14. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session, through the Economic and Social Council, a report on the implementation of the International Framework of Action for the Decade;

15. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session a report containing proposals on how the distinct programme and coordination capability of the secretariat of the Decade might be enhanced so as to enable it to coordinate effectively the activities of the Decade and the integration of natural disaster reduction into the sustainable development process;

16. *Decides* to consider the question of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction at its fifty-

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[122] A/50/201-E/1995/74.

[123] See resolution 44/236, annex.

first session, as a separate sub-item under environmental questions related to the environment and sustainable development.

96th plenary meeting
20 December 1995

B

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 44/236 of 22 December 1989, 46/182 of 19 December 1991, 49/22 A of 2 December 1994 and 49/22 B of 20 December 1994,

Taking note of Economic and Social Council resolutions 1995/47 A and B of 27 July 1995,

Concerned about the continued threat posed by natural disasters and similar disasters with an adverse impact on vulnerable communities, including their environments, particularly in developing countries,

Concerned also about the continuing threat posed by natural disasters and similar disasters with an adverse impact on the environment,

Recalling the Yokohama Strategy for a Safer World: Guidelines for Natural Disaster Prevention, Preparedness, and Mitigation and its Plan of Action, adopted by the World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction on 27 May 1994,[124]

Taking into account already existing early-warning capacities within the United Nations system, in particular within the Department of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat, the United Nations Environment Programme, the World Meteorological Organization, the World Health Organization and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations,

Conscious of the need to avoid duplication of work among United Nations bodies dealing with early-warning capacities,

Emphasizing that early warnings of impending natural disasters and similar disasters with an adverse impact on the environment, linked to effective disaster preparedness measures and their effective dissemination, using, in particular, telecommunications, including broadcast services, are key factors to successful disaster prevention and preparedness,

Reaffirming that sustained economic growth and sustainable development are essential for the prevention of and preparedness for natural disasters and similar disasters with an adverse impact on the environment and that special attention should be given to disaster prevention and preparedness by the Governments concerned as well as by the international community,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on early-warning capacities of the United Nations system with regard to natural disasters and similar disasters with an adverse impact on the environment;[125]

2. *Commends* the secretariat of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction, as part of the Department of Humanitarian Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, and all concerned agencies and organizations of the United Nations system for the constructive inter-agency approach they have applied, which has led to this initial overview and analysis of early-warning concepts, capacities and gaps and to proposals for improvements in coordination and capacity-building with regard to such disasters;

3. *Requests* the Scientific and Technical Committee of the Decade to continue, within the scope of its work on early-warning capabilities, to examine and study new scientific and experimental concepts and methodologies for accurate and timely short-term forecasting of earthquakes, other natural disasters and similar disasters with an adverse impact on the environment, with a view to making recommendations on their applicability and development in the context of international cooperation to improve preparedness for and minimize the risks of such disasters;

4. *Takes note* of the conclusions and proposals made by the Secretary-General in his report with respect to the improvement of early-warning capabilities, better international coordination in their use, and more effective and beneficial exchange of knowledge and technology;

5. *Invites* the Secretary-General, in particular, to facilitate, within the existing International Framework of Action for the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction,[126] an internationally concerted framework for improvements in early-warning capacities by developing a concrete proposal for an effective international mechanism on early warning, to include the transfer of technologies related to early warning to developing countries, under the auspices of the United Nations and as part of the implementation of the International Framework, the Yokohama Strategy for a Safer World and its Plan of Action;

6. *Also invites* the Secretary-General to take the steps necessary to make the early-warning data gathered under the United Nations auspices readily available to the decision makers concerned at the international, national, regional and subregional levels;

7. *Encourages* all Governments to undertake, with the full support of the United Nations system, regular reviews of early-warning requirements and capabilities at national and community levels, within the framework of the development of national disaster reduction policies in order to enhance protection of their national populations and assets;

8. *Calls on* the secretariat of the Decade to continue to facilitate a concerted international approach to improvements in early-warning capacities for natural disasters and similar disasters with an adverse impact on the environment, within the process leading towards the closing event of the Decade;

9. *Recommends* that donor countries give greater priority to disaster prevention, preparedness and mitigation in their assistance programmes and budgets, on either a bilateral or multilateral basis, including through increasing contributions to the Trust Fund for the Decade, and promote and facilitate the transfer of technologies related to early warning to developing countries within the framework of the implementation of the Yokohama Strategy and its Plan of Action;

10. *Encourages* improved efforts, in the context of international technical assistance and cooperation within the framework of the implementation of the Yokohama Strategy and its Plan of Action, towards facilitating the availability of appropriate technology and reliable data, along with the corresponding training, and access to network sys-

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[124] See A/CONF.172/9, chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[125] A/50/526.

[126] Resolution 44/236, annex.

tems related to early warning, particularly to developing countries;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session on progress made in the implementation of the present resolution.

96th plenary meeting
20 December 1995

50/118. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Southern African Development Community

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 37/248 of 21 December 1982, 38/160 of 19 December 1983, 39/215 of 18 December 1984, 40/195 of 17 December 1985, 42/181 of 11 December 1987, 44/221 of 22 December 1989, 46/160 of 19 December 1991 and 48/173 of 21 December 1993, in which, *inter alia*, it requested the Secretary-General to promote cooperation between the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system and the Southern African Development Coordination Conference, and urged intensification of contacts in order to accelerate the achievement of the objectives of the Lusaka Declaration of 1 April 1980, by which the Conference was established,[127]

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[128]

Welcoming the strengthening of the Southern African Development Community[129] through the admission of South Africa and Mauritius as member States,

Commending member States of the Community for demonstrating their support and commitment to deeper and more formal arrangements for cooperation within the new Community,

Commending also the efforts made by the Community to implement its programme of action,

Reaffirming that the successful implementation of the development programmes of the Community can be achieved only if the Community has adequate resources at its disposal,

Noting that the effects of war, loss of life and destruction of economic and social infrastructure in southern Africa demand the continuation and strengthening of rehabilitation programmes to regenerate the economies of the countries of the region,

Noting with grave concern the recurrence of drought in the region and the increase of poverty as a result, especially in rural communities,

Recognizing the strengthening of democratic governance and other positive developments in the region, including the holding of elections and installation of a democratic Government in South Africa, and the restoration of democratic rule in Lesotho in September 1994, as well as the holding of multi-party elections in Malawi and recently in the United Republic of Tanzania,

Welcoming with satisfaction the reintegration of Walvis Bay and the offshore islands into Namibia, and noting the impact of Walvis Bay as a major harbour on regional economic cooperation,

Also noting that despite the positive developments in the political and military situation in Angola, the economic, social and humanitarian situation remains dire, and reaffirming both the importance of and the need for a continued and effective United Nations presence in promoting a negotiated settlement in Angola with a view to fostering the peace process,

Noting with satisfaction the successful implementation of the General Peace Agreement for Mozambique,[130] which has created favourable conditions for the establishment of lasting peace, the enhancement of democracy, the promotion of national reconciliation, and the implementation of a programme of national reconstruction and development in Mozambique,

Recognizing the valuable and effective economic and financial contribution that some organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system have made to complement national and subregional efforts for the advancement of the process of democratization, rehabilitation and development in southern Africa,

Welcoming the outcome of recent United Nations conferences, in particular the Fourth World Conference on Women,[131] and recognizing the important role that women play in development in the region,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[128] in which he describes progress made in the implementation of General Assembly resolutions dealing with cooperation between the United Nations and the Southern African Development Community;

2. *Commends* the States Members of the United Nations and organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system that have maintained, enhanced and initiated development cooperation with the Community;

3. *Calls upon* the States Members of the United Nations and organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system that have not yet established contact and relationships with the Community to explore the possibility of doing so;

4. *Commends also* the members of the Community for the progress that has been achieved to date in implementing its programme of action, and encourages perseverance with those efforts;

5. *Expresses appreciation* to the international community for the financial, technical and material support given to the Community;

6. *Renews its appeal* to the international community to maintain current levels of, and increase, where appropriate, its financial, technical and material support to the Community in order to enable it to implement fully its programme of action and to meet the reconstruction and rehabilitation needs of the region;

7. *Appeals* to the international community and to relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to extend appropriate assistance to the Community in order to enable it to advance further the process of regional economic integration;

8. *Appeals* to the United Nations, its related organs and the international community to assist the Community with appropriate resources to implement the programmes and

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[127] See A/38/493, annex I.

[128] A/50/664.

[129] Formerly, Southern African Development Coordination Conference.

[130] See *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-seventh Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1992*, document S/24635 and Corr.1, annex.

[131] See A/CONF.177/20.

decisions adopted by various United Nations world conferences, with specific emphasis on the enhancement of the role of women in the development process;

9. *Welcomes* the economic and political achievements and reforms undertaken within the Community, which are intended to address better the challenges of regional cooperation and integration in the 1990s and beyond;

10. *Appeals* to the international community to extend the needed assistance to the newly democratized South African nation to enable it to implement its reconstruction and development programme as speedily as possible;

11. *Calls upon* the United Nations to intensify its efforts to assist the Government of Angola and the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola in the rapid implementation of the Lusaka Protocol[132] in all its aspects;

12. *Expresses its appreciation* for the substantial contributions of Member States, United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations to meet the needs of the Angolan people, and encourages additional substantial contributions;

13. *Calls upon* the international community to continue to extend its support to the people of Mozambique in their efforts to consolidate their newfound peace and democracy based on national reconstruction and development in that country;

14. *Reaffirms its appeal* to the international community to continue rendering assistance to Namibia to enable it to implement its national development programmes;

15. *Commends* the Secretary-General and members of the international community for their timely response to the drought situation in southern Africa, which has averted famine in the region;

16. *Appeals* to the United Nations and the international community for continued assistance in addressing the drought situation in the southern African region, especially through strengthening the capacity of the Community in drought mitigation, drought monitoring, early warning and preparedness;

17. *Invites* the donor community and other cooperating partners to participate at a high level in the Annual Consultative Conference of the Southern African Development Community, to be held at Johannesburg on 1 and 2 February 1996;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Executive Secretary of the Southern African Development Community, to continue to intensify contacts aimed at promoting and harmonizing cooperation between the United Nations and the Community;

19. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session on the implementation of the present resolution.

96th plenary meeting
20 December 1995

50/119. Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries and a United Nations conference on South-South cooperation

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 33/134 of 19 December 1978, in which it endorsed the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries,[133] and 46/159 of 19 December 1991 on technical cooperation among developing countries, as well as its other relevant resolutions on economic and technical cooperation among developing countries,

Reaffirming also its resolution 49/96 of 19 December 1994 on a United Nations conference on South-South cooperation,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1992/41 of 30 July 1992, in which the Council called upon all parties in the development effort to make concerted, planned and vigorous endeavours to benefit from utilization of the capacities of developing countries by giving their full support and first consideration to the use of the modality of technical cooperation among developing countries,

Taking note of the decisions and recommendations contained in the Final Document of the Eleventh Conference of Heads of State or Government of the Non-Aligned Countries,[134] held at Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, from 18 to 20 October 1995,

Bearing in mind the Ministerial Declaration of the Group of 77,[7] adopted at the nineteenth annual meeting of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Group of 77, held in New York on 29 September 1995, which emphasized the importance of South-South cooperation, particularly the convening of a United Nations conference on South-South cooperation no later than 1997,

Reaffirming that South-South cooperation constitutes an important element of international cooperation for development as well as an essential basis for national and collective self-reliance and a means of promoting the integration of developing countries into the world economy,

Reaffirming also that South-South cooperation is not a substitute for, but is complementary to, North-South cooperation,

Noting with satisfaction the increase in economic and technical cooperation among developing countries reported by both developing countries and the United Nations development system,

Recognizing the need for the international community to support the developing countries in optimizing opportunities for expanding South-South cooperation,

Welcoming the report on new directions for technical cooperation among developing countries,[135] prepared in response to its resolution 49/96, whose recommendations were endorsed by the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries at its ninth session,[136] and subsequently endorsed by the Economic and Social Council,

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[132] See *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-ninth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1994*, document S/1994/1441.

[133] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, Buenos Aires, 30 August–12 September 1978* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.78.II.A.11 and corrigendum), chap. I.

[134] See A/50/752-S/1995/1035, annex III; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fiftieth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1995*, document S/1995/1035.

[135] TCDC/9/3.

Noting with satisfaction the launching of the South Centre as an intergovernmental organization, and its important contribution to the promotion and strengthening of South-South cooperation,

Recognizing that recent advances in communications technology have created new opportunities for South-South cooperation,

Taking note of the report of the Intergovernmental Meeting of Experts on South-South Cooperation,[137] convened by the Secretary-General in New York from 31 July to 4 August 1995, and of the reports of the Standing Committee on Economic Cooperation among Developing Countries of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development[138] and of the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries on the work of its ninth session,[139] at which substantive issues were presented and practical modalities for strengthening South-South economic and technical cooperation at the global level were recommended,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the state of South-South cooperation[140] and its supplement entitled *State of South-South Cooperation: Statistical Pocket Book and Index of Cooperation Organizations*,[141] which provide a comprehensive and systematic overview and analysis of South-South cooperation worldwide and of United Nations system support for such cooperation;

2. *Endorses* the recommendations contained in the report on new directions for technical cooperation among developing countries,[135] which among other things call for the adoption of a more strategic orientation for technical cooperation among developing countries focusing on priority issues, such as trade and investment, debt, the environment, poverty alleviation, production and employment, and macroeconomic policy coordination, as well as education, health, the transfer of technology and rural development, which are likely to have a major development impact on a large number of developing countries;

3. *Welcomes* the decision of the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme and of the United Nations Population Fund to increase the allocation of resources for technical cooperation among developing countries during the next programming cycle of the United Nations Development Programme;

4. *Calls upon* all Governments and relevant United Nations organizations, including the multilateral financial institutions, to consider increasing allocations for economic and technical cooperation among developing countries and to identify new funding modalities to promote South-South cooperation such as triangular cooperation and private sector funding;

5. *Invites* the United Nations Development Programme to establish a voluntary trust fund for the promotion of South-South cooperation and invites all countries to contribute to the fund;

6. *Calls upon* the developing countries and their institutions to increase joint efforts in technology cooperation, broader technological development such as encompasses scientific and technological management capabilities and information networks that are demand-oriented and involve participation by users of technology or by those involved in the process of technological development, infrastructure and human resources development;

7. *Welcomes* the decision of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to address at its ninth session the issue of new approaches to South-South economic cooperation, as well as the role and potential impact on development of regional economic groupings in the globalizing and liberalizing world economy;

8. *Invites*, in this context, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, at its ninth session, to be held in South Africa, to consider strengthening economic and technical cooperation among developing countries as a strategy for promoting growth and development and for ensuring the effective integration of the developing countries into the world economy, and to formulate concrete policy recommendations in this regard;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to present to the General Assembly, on a biennial basis, a report entitled "State of South-South cooperation" containing a comprehensive overview and analysis of South-South economic and technical cooperation worldwide and international support in this regard, including quantitative data and indicators on all aspects of South-South cooperation as well as recommendations for strengthening such cooperation, keeping in view the importance of the proposal to convene a United Nations conference on South-South cooperation;

10. *Invites* all other organs, organizations and agencies of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the regional commissions, to provide analytical and empirical material for the preparation of the above-mentioned report;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-second session the sub-item entitled "Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries".

96th plenary meeting
20 December 1995

50/120. Triennial policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 44/211 of 22 December 1989 and 47/199 of 22 December 1992, as well as other relevant resolutions,

Reaffirming that operational activities for development within the United Nations system have a critical and unique role to play in enabling developing countries to continue to take a lead role in the management of their own development process,

Bearing in mind that the effectiveness of operational activities should be measured by their impact on the sustained economic growth and sustainable development of developing countries,

Stressing that national plans and priorities constitute the only viable frame of reference for the national programming of operational activities for development within the

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[136] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 39 (A/50/39), annex I, decision 9/2.*

[137] A/AC.246/3.

[138] TD/B/42(1)/7 and TD/B/CN.3/16.

[139] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 39 (A/50/39).*

[140] A/50/340 and Add.1.

[141] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.II.D.18.

United Nations system, and that programmes should be based on such development plans and priorities, and should therefore be country-driven,

Also stressing in that context the need to take into account the outcomes and commitments of relevant United Nations conferences, as well as the individual mandates and complementarities of the organizations and bodies of the United Nations development system, bearing in mind the need to avoid duplication,

Further stressing that the fundamental characteristics of the operational activities of the United Nations system should be, *inter alia*, their universal, voluntary and grant nature, their neutrality and their multilateralism, as well as their ability to respond to the needs of developing countries in a flexible manner, and that the operational activities of the United Nations system are carried out for the benefit of the developing countries, at the request of those countries and in accordance with their own policies and priorities for development,

Recognizing the urgent and specific needs of the low-income countries, in particular the least developed countries,

Noting the progress that has been achieved in a number of areas in the implementation of its resolution 47/199, while stressing the need for individual organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, as well as coordination mechanisms of the United Nations system, to continue to work towards the full and coordinated implementation of that resolution,

Also recognizing that the United Nations development system should take into account the specific needs and requirements of the countries with economies in transition and other recipient countries,

Recalling that the General Assembly is the highest intergovernmental mechanism for the formulation and appraisal of policy matters relating to the economic, social and related fields, in accordance with Chapter IX of the Charter of the United Nations, and that the functions and powers of the Economic and Social Council are provided for in Chapters IX and X of the Charter and are elaborated in relevant Assembly resolutions, including resolutions 45/264 of 13 May 1991 and 48/162 of 20 December 1993, in which the Assembly defined the relationship between the Assembly, the Council and the executive boards of the funds and programmes, in particular the Council function of overall guidance and coordination of the operational activities for development of the United Nations system,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system[142] and welcomes its user-friendly format;

2. *Reaffirms* its resolution 47/199 and stresses the need to implement fully all the elements of that resolution in a coherent manner, keeping in mind their interlinkages;

3. *Endorses* Economic and Social Council resolution 1995/51 of 28 July 1995 on overall guidance on operational activities for development to the United Nations funds and programmes;

4. *Notes with regret* that, although significant progress has already been made on the restructuring and rationalization of the governance and functioning of the United Nations development funds and programmes, there has not been, as part of the overall reform process, any substantial increase in resources for operational activities for development on a predictable, continuous and assured basis, nor have the consultations on prospective new modalities for financing reached a conclusion;

5. *Strongly reaffirms* that the efficiency, effectiveness and impact of the operational activities of the United Nations system must be enhanced by, *inter alia*, a substantial increase in their funding on a predictable, continuous and assured basis, commensurate with the increasing needs of developing countries, as well as through the full implementation of resolutions 47/199 and 48/162;

6. *Urges* developed countries, in particular those countries whose overall performance is not commensurate with their capacity, taking into account established official development assistance targets, including targets established at the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries[51] and their current levels of contribution, to increase substantially their official development assistance, including contributions to the operational activities of the United Nations system;

7. *Notes with appreciation* the sustained contributions of many donors and recipient countries to the operational activities for development in a spirit of partnership;

8. *Expresses serious concern* at the persistent insufficiency of resources for the operational development activities of the United Nations, in particular the decline in contributions to core resources;

9. *Stresses* the need for a substantial increase in resources for operational activities for development on a predictable, continuous and assured basis, commensurate with the increasing needs of developing countries;

10. *Decides* that intensified consultations and negotiations on prospective new specific modalities for financing operational activities for development on a predictable, continuous and assured basis, in accordance with paragraphs 31 to 34 of annex I to resolution 48/162 on the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic and social fields, should lead to an agreed outcome in the framework of the review process of that resolution;

11. *Reaffirms* the need for priority allocation of scarce grant resources to programmes and projects in low-income countries, particularly the least developed countries;

12. *Emphasizes* that recipient Governments have the primary responsibility for coordinating, on the basis of national strategies and priorities, all types of external assistance, including that provided by multilateral organizations, in order to integrate effectively such assistance into their development process;

13. *Urges* the members of the United Nations development system to continue to develop an agreed division of responsibility, in accordance with their respective mandates, under the coordination of Governments as well as greater complementarity in their respective roles at the field level in response to the needs and priorities of recipient countries;

14. *Stresses* the need for the United Nations system to take full account of the interests and concerns of all recipient countries, and, in that context, stresses the need for it to give serious consideration to ways of ensuring a more coherent response by the system to the national plans and priorities of recipient Governments;

15. *Also stresses* the need for all organizations of the United Nations development system to focus their efforts

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[142] A/50/202-E/1995/76.

at the field level on priority areas, in accordance with the priorities identified by recipient countries and the mandates, mission statements and relevant decisions of their governing bodies, in order to avoid duplication and enhance the complementarity and impact of their work;

16. *Further stresses* that, in the context of the reform of the United Nations Secretariat and the restructuring and revitalization of the intergovernmental process, the mandates of the separate sectoral and specialized entities, funds, programmes and specialized agencies should be respected and enhanced, taking into account their complementarities;

17. *Reaffirms* that the country strategy note remains a voluntary initiative of recipient countries that should be formulated by interested recipient countries in accordance with their development plans and priorities, with the assistance of and in cooperation with the United Nations system under the leadership of the resident coordinator, in all recipient countries where the Government so decides;

18. *Decides* that, where in place, the country strategy note should be the common framework for country programmes of United Nations system organizations and for programming, monitoring and evaluating United Nations system activities in such countries, and that the country strategy note should outline the United Nations system contribution, including, where appropriate, an indication of the level of resources needed to meet the requirements therein;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with interested Member States and in order to be able to respond more effectively to the needs of recipient countries, to undertake further work on:

(*a*) Broad common guidelines, with the aim of promoting greater consistency and clarity in the United Nations system contribution to country strategy notes;

(*b*) Enhancing its operational relevance by ensuring that the development of individual country programmes takes fully into account the framework provided by the country strategy note, where it exists, so as to promote an agreed division of responsibility within the United Nations system in accordance with paragraph 13 of the present resolution;

(*c*) Promoting the exchange of experiences gained in producing country strategy notes among recipient countries;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with Member States and United Nations organizations, to consider ways of enhancing the coordination of United Nations development activities at the regional and subregional levels, including ways of enhancing the role of the regional commissions and of promoting the national ownership of regional programmes;

21. *Stresses* that the United Nations system, where requested by interested Governments, should support the establishment of the forums and mechanisms that facilitate and guide policy dialogue among the partners in the development process, primarily in order to ensure that their programmes are integrated with national plans and strategies;

22. *Decides* that the objective of capacity-building and its sustainability should continue to be an essential part of the operational activities of the United Nations system at the country level, with the aim of integrating their activities and providing support to efforts to strengthen national capacities in the fields of, *inter alia*, policy and programme formulation, development management, planning, implementation, coordination, monitoring and review;

23. *Recalls* the importance of accountability as well as of simplifying reporting requirements, which should be in line with national systems;

24. *Decides* that, where Governments so desire, the United Nations system should be ready to engage in providing an enabling environment to strengthen the capacity of civil societies and national non-governmental organizations that are involved in development activities, in accordance with national priorities;

25. *Also decides* that the United Nations system should use, to the fullest extent possible, available national expertise and indigenous technologies;

26. *Calls for* further work on the development of common guidelines at the field level for the recruitment, training and remuneration of national project personnel, including national consultants in the formulation and implementation of development projects and programmes supported by the United Nations development system in order to enhance the coherence of the system;

27. *Decides* that the United Nations development system should continue to work on promoting a common understanding and the operationalization of capacity-building concepts, as well as on ways of enhancing the sustainability of capacity-building;

28. *Also decides* that the United Nations development system should continue to work on improving the definition and guidelines for national execution and the programme approach;

29. *Requests* the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to undertake efforts in the context of national execution and capacity-building to enhance the absorptive capacity in developing countries, in particular in the least developed countries and Africa, and to assist similar efforts undertaken by those countries;

30. *Stresses* the important role of the specialized agencies of the United Nations system in transferring and facilitating the necessary technical and substantive expertise to support the national execution of United Nations-funded programmes and projects, and invites the Secretary-General, in collaboration with the heads of specialized agencies, to inform the Economic and Social Council of the measures taken by those specialized agencies in response to General Assembly resolution 47/199, in particular as regards national execution;

31. *Also stresses* that the governing bodies of all funds, programmes and specialized agencies should make further progress in order to ensure that the prescribed limits on field-level authority for cancelling, modifying and adding activities within approved programmes and shifting resources within approved budget lines of individual components of a programme and among components of a programme, with the approval of national authorities, should be expanded to become equal and uniform, to the maximum extent possible, in the context of enhanced accountability;

32. *Recognizes* that monitoring and evaluation processes, including joint evaluations, should continue to be nationally led, and that the United Nations system should therefore support, where requested by Governments, the strengthening of national evaluation capacities;

33. *Also recognizes* in that context the need to strengthen capacities to perform both effective pro-

gramme, project and financial monitoring and impact evaluations of operational activities funded by the United Nations;

34. *Requests* the United Nations system to strengthen its efforts, in consultation with recipient countries, to ensure that:

(*a*) Monitoring is carried out in a way that ensures the timely identification of problems and effective remedial action;

(*b*) Organizations of the United Nations system, operating at the country level, coordinate their periodic programme reviews and evaluations;

(*c*) The lessons learned from both monitoring and evaluation exercises are systematically applied into programming processes at the operational level, and that responsibility for such application is clearly assigned;

(*d*) Evaluation criteria are built into all projects and programmes at their design stage, bearing in mind the need for adequate training;

35. *Underlines* the importance of promoting, under the leadership of Governments, greater collaboration on issues relating to evaluation among recipient Governments, the United Nations development system and relevant development partners at the country level;

36. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make the resident coordinator system more participatory in its functioning at the field level by, *inter alia*, making greater use of thematic groups and adopting a more consultative approach;

37. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to:

(*a*) Identify ways of encouraging wider participation in the pool of candidates for resident coordinator positions;

(*b*) Promote greater governmental involvement in the selection process for resident coordinators, in particular by ensuring that national Governments are consulted before the post profile for resident coordinators is passed to the Joint Consultative Group on Policies, and keeping up to date the selection criteria for resident coordinators and, through the respective executive heads, for senior representatives of United Nations agencies in the field, bearing in mind the specific circumstances of individual countries;

(*c*) Develop common guidelines for staff performance appraisal for the funds and programmes, including ways of assessing the contribution of staff members to United Nations system coordination;

(*d*) Urge all members of the United Nations development system to give clear guidance and direction to their country representatives to promote the effective functioning of the resident coordinator system;

(*e*) Promote training in the areas of team-building and interpersonal skills;

38. *Invites* the United Nations system, including the funds and programmes, specialized agencies and the Secretariat, to provide, as appropriate, support to the resident coordinator system;

39. *Reaffirms* that resident coordinators, in full consultation with national Governments, should facilitate a coherent and coordinated United Nations follow-up to major international conferences at the field level;

40. *Decides* that in order to promote coordination and a better division of labour resident coordinators should, at an early stage of formulation, be informed of planned programme activities of the United Nations agencies, funds, programmes and bodies;

41. *Also decides* that the field-level committees organized by the United Nations system country team, which were established in accordance with paragraph 40 of General Assembly resolution 47/199, should review substantive activities—including draft country programmes, sectoral programmes and projects—prior to their approval by individual organizations, and should exchange experience acquired, on the understanding that the result of the work of the review committee should be submitted to national Governments for final approval through the national focal points;

42. *Reaffirms* the need to enhance the responsibility and authority of resident coordinators for the planning and coordination of programmes, as well as to allow them to propose, in full consultation with Governments, to the heads of the funds, programmes and specialized agencies, the amendment of country programmes and major projects and programmes, where required, in order to bring them into line with country strategy notes;

43. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the United Nations development system to take the need for gender balance fully into account when making appointments, including at the senior level and in the field, in accordance with relevant General Assembly resolutions;

44. *Requests* the Joint Consultative Group on Policies and, to the maximum extent possible, the specialized agencies, to raise substantially the target for achieving common premises on the basis of cost-benefit analysis and avoiding an increased burden on host countries;

45. *Calls for* further simplification and harmonization of rules of procedure used by the United Nations development system in its operational activities, in particular by the promotion of greater consistency in the presentation of budgets at the headquarters level, as well as in sharing administrative systems and services in the field, where possible, and in developing common databases, in consultation with national Governments;

46. *Urges* the members of the United Nations development system to adopt a more collaborative approach in preparing reports at all levels;

47. *Requests* the Secretary-General to promote the creation or further development of common guidelines on procedures relating to, *inter alia*, programme components and project formulation, appraisal, implementation, monitoring, evaluation and administration, in fulfilment of paragraph 33 of General Assembly resolution 47/199;

48. *Takes note* of Economic and Social Council resolution 1995/50 of 28 July 1995, in which the Council decided that the high-level meeting of the operational activities segment of its substantive session of 1996 should focus on strengthening collaboration between the United Nations development system and the Bretton Woods institutions in the area of social and economic development at all levels, including the field level;

49. *Also takes note* of the mission statement of the World Food Programme and the decision of the executive boards of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund and of the United Nations Children's Fund to establish mission statements for their respective organizations;

50. *Emphasizes* the importance of disseminating the experience of effective and efficient cooperation with the

United Nations development system, *inter alia*, through interregional projects of technical cooperation, and urges the United Nations system to give support to such activities;

51. *Calls upon* the United Nations system, in implementing the present resolution, to bear in mind the specific requirements of the continuum from humanitarian assistance through rehabilitation to development;

52. *Requests* the Secretary-General, after consultations with the funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, to present to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1996 an appropriate management process containing clear guidelines, targets, benchmarks and time-frames for the full implementation of the present resolution;

53. *Invites* the Economic and Social Council, during the operational activities segment of its substantive sessions of 1996 and 1997, to examine the operational activities of the United Nations system with a view to ensuring the full implementation of the present resolution;

54. *Also invites* the Economic and Social Council, at its substantive session of 1996, to consider, *inter alia*, the issues of harmonization and administrative services, common premises and monitoring and evaluation, and, at its substantive session of 1997, to consider, *inter alia*, capacity-building, field and regional-level coordination, and resources, on the basis of progress reports by the Secretary-General, including appropriate recommendations;

55. *Reaffirms* that the governing bodies of the funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system should take appropriate action for the full implementation of the present resolution, and requests the executive heads of those funds, programmes and specialized agencies, bearing in mind paragraph 46 of the present resolution, to submit a yearly progress report to their governing bodies on measures taken and envisaged for the implementation of the present resolution, as well as appropriate recommendations;

56. *Decides* that, as an integral part of the next comprehensive triennial policy review, there should be, in consultation with Member States, an evaluation of the impact of operational activities for development, and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive sessions of 1996 and 1997 information on progress in that regard;

57. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session, through the Economic and Social Council, a comprehensive analysis of the implementation of the present resolution in the context of the triennial policy review, and to make appropriate recommendations.

96th plenary meeting
20 December 1995

50/121. United Nations Institute for Training and Research

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 47/227 of 8 April 1993, 48/207 of 21 December 1993 and 49/125 of 19 December 1994,

Having considered the report prepared upon the request of the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, entitled "Summary of ongoing activities and brief identification of potential developments of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research",[143] and taking into account the statements made before the Second Committee of the General Assembly,

Recognizing the successful implementation of the transfer of the headquarters of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research from New York to Geneva and the Institute's consolidating itself at its new location,

Taking note with interest of the measures taken to complete the restructuring process of the Institute,

Welcoming the measures already taken pursuant to resolution 49/125 in order to resolve the problem the Institute had been experiencing with respect to the rent of its Geneva headquarters,

Recognizing that training activities should be accorded a more visible and larger role in support of the management of international affairs and in the execution of the economic and social development programmes of the United Nations system,

1. *Reaffirms* the relevance of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, particularly in view of the many training requirements of all Member States;

2. *Invites* the Institute to further develop its cooperation with United Nations institutes and other relevant national, regional and international institutes;

3. *Welcomes* the decision of the Board of Trustees of the Institute, at its thirty-third session and at its special session, inviting the Institute to open a liaison office in New York, in so far as this is possible within its existing resources and pursuant to General Assembly resolutions 47/227 and 49/125, in order to respond to the training needs of the Missions and delegations of Member States in New York and in order to strengthen its cooperative relationship with the United Nations Secretariat;

4. *Urges* all Member States to consider resuming or increasing their voluntary contributions to the restructured United Nations Institute for Training and Research, in particular to its General Fund;

5. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to take relevant measures with respect to the regularization of the Executive Director of the Institute, taking into account the recommendations of the Board of Trustees;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General, duly taking into account the deliberations of the Board of Trustees, to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session on possible ways to strengthen the training activities of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research and to better define its role.

96th plenary meeting
20 December 1995

50/122. Renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 48/165 of 21 December 1993 and 49/95 of 19 December 1994 on renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership,

Noting with appreciation the efforts of the Secretary-

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[143] A/50/539, annex.

General to encourage a constructive dialogue for enhancing development and to facilitate actions in that regard,

Noting also the ongoing work of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group of the General Assembly on an Agenda for Development,

Recognizing that the continued trend towards deepening interdependence among countries and the increasing globalization of economic issues and problems present risks and uncertainties as well as opportunities and challenges for dialogue on international economic cooperation,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership;[144]

2. *Reaffirms* that such a dialogue should be conducted in response to the imperatives of mutual interests and benefits, genuine interdependence, shared responsibility and the partnership for achieving sustained economic growth and sustainable development as well as improving the international economic environment that is conducive to such development, and that the United Nations should reinforce its activities in order to facilitate such a dialogue;

3. *Stresses* the need to put development at the centre of United Nations activities and that the United Nations has a central role to play in promoting international economic cooperation for development and in bringing development issues to the attention of the international community;

4. *Recognizes* that the ongoing discussions in the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group of the General Assembly on an Agenda for Development and its outcome aim at strengthening constructive dialogue with a view to enhancing and revitalizing international economic cooperation for development through increased partnership among and between countries;

5. *Agrees* to hold a high-level dialogue for a period of two days at the fifty-first session of the General Assembly—the date, modalities and focus of the discussion to be decided on in the context of the outcome of the work of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on an Agenda for Development and the decision taken on the adoption of the agenda—on the theme of the social and economic impact of globalization and interdependence and their policy implications, and requests the Secretary-General, in close cooperation with Governments, relevant organizations and other development actors, to make initial preparations for such a dialogue;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit further recommendations for enhancing the dialogue, taking into consideration agreed conclusions 1995/1 of 28 July 1995 of the Economic and Social Council on coordinated follow-up by the United Nations system and implementation of the results of the major international conferences organized by the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields,[145] the outcome of the ongoing discussions in the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on an Agenda for Development, and on restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session for its consideration, recommendations on possible future themes for dialogue, including the issues of regional integration and of new information technology and the global economy;

8. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to elaborate his proposals to convene special sessions of the General Assembly, on major issues relevant to the dialogue on international economic cooperation for development, including those identified in an agenda for development;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session, under the item entitled "Agenda for development", a sub-item entitled "Renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership".

96th plenary meeting
20 December 1995

50/123. International migration and development

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development adopted at Cairo, in particular, chapter X on international migration,[146]

Recalling also the relevant provisions contained in the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development[147] and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development[148] and in the Platform for Action[64] adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women,

Recalling further its resolution 49/127 of 19 December 1994 and Economic and Social Council decision 1995/313 of 27 July 1995,

Recognizing the importance from an analytical and operational point of view of identifying the existing linkages among the social, economic, political and cultural factors related to international migration and development, and of taking appropriate steps to intensify the analysis of issues involved,

Recognizing also the important role of the United Nations Population Fund as the lead agency of the Inter-Agency Task Force on the Implementation of the Programme of Action adopted at Cairo,

Recalling that the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council should carry out their respective responsibilities, as entrusted to them in the Charter of the United Nations, in the formulation of policies and the provision of guidance to and coordination of United Nations activities in the field of population and development,

Recalling also that the Economic and Social Council, in the context of its role under the Charter *vis-à-vis* the General Assembly and in accordance with Assembly resolutions 45/264 of 13 May 1991, 46/235 of 13 April 1992 and 48/162 of 20 December 1994, should assist the Assembly in promoting an integrated approach to the implementation of the Programme of Action in providing system-wide coordination and guidance in monitoring the implementation,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on international migration and development,[149] including the comments of Governments regarding the objectives and

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[144] A/50/480.

[145] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/50/3), chap. III, para. 22.

[146] See *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994* (A/CONF.171/13/Rev.1) (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[147] A/CONF.166/9, chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[148] Ibid., annex II.

[149] E/1995/69.

modalities for the convening of a United Nations conference on international migration and development;

2. *Urges* Member States and the United Nations system to strengthen international cooperation in the area of international migration and development in order to address the root causes of migration, especially those related to poverty, and to maximize the benefits of international migration to those concerned and increase the likelihood that international migration has positive consequences for the sustainable development of both sending and receiving countries;

3. *Calls upon* the international community to seek to make the option of remaining in one's country viable for all people; to that end, efforts to achieve sustainable economic and social development, ensuring a better economic balance between developed and developing countries, should be strengthened;

4. *Invites* the Commission on Population and Development to consider, in 1997, in the context of the follow-up to the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, in particular chapter X, the interrelationship between international migration and development;

5. *Calls upon* all relevant organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental, regional and subregional organizations to address the issue of international migration and development, and invites them to submit their views to the Secretary-General;

6. *Invites* the Economic and Social Council to consider at its organizational session for 1997 including "International migration and development" as a theme in the context of its agenda for 1997;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to designate, within existing resources, a clearly identifiable, qualified and competent focal point and to prepare, following consultations with the International Organization for Migration and the International Labour Organization and other relevant organizations of the United Nations system and after soliciting the additional views of Governments, a report to be presented to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session containing concrete proposals on ways and means to address, from cross-sectoral, interregional, regional and subregional points of view, the issue of international migration and development, including aspects related to objectives and modalities for the convening of a United Nations conference on international migration and development;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-second session the item entitled "International migration and development, including the convening of a United Nations conference on international migration and development".

96th plenary meeting
20 December 1995

50/124. Implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 49/128 of 19 December 1994 on the report of the International Conference on Population and Development,[150] and 48/162 of 20 December 1993 on the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council decision 1994/227 of 14 July 1994, by which the Council approved the provisional agenda and documentation for the twenty-eighth session of the then Population Commission, including discussion of the implications of the recommendations of the International Conference on Population and Development,

Recalling further Economic and Social Council resolution 1995/55 of 28 July 1995 on the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,[151] by which the Council endorsed the terms of reference proposed by the renamed Commission on Population and Development in its report on its twenty-eighth session,[152] which reflect the comprehensive and integrated nature of population and development,

Acknowledging fully the integrated approach taken during the International Conference on Population and Development, which recognizes the interrelationship between population, sustained economic growth and sustainable development,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General[153] on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 49/128 on the report of the International Conference on Population and Development,

Recognizing that the implementation of the recommendations contained in the Programme of Action is the sovereign right of every country, in accordance with its national laws and development priorities, with full respect for the various religious and ethical values and cultural backgrounds of its peoples and in conformity with universally recognized international human rights,

Reaffirming the importance of the principles and concepts set out in the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development[42] and Agenda 21[43] for the purpose of implementing the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, and in that regard recognizing that chapter 5 of Agenda 21[43] and chapter III of the Programme of Action[151] reinforce one another and together form a comprehensive and compelling up-to-date account of what needs to be done about the interface between population, environment and sustainable development,

Noting with satisfaction the contribution that the outcome of the International Conference on Population and Development has made to the World Summit for Social Development and the Fourth World Conference on Women, and expressing its belief in the contribution that the outcome of the International Conference on Population and Development will make to the forthcoming United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and in the elaboration of an agenda for development, in particular with regard to the call for a greater investment in people,

1. *Notes* the action taken so far by Governments and

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[150] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994* (A/CONF.171/13/Rev.1) (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18).

[151] Ibid., chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[152] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1995, Supplement No. 7* (E/1995/27), annex I.

[153] A/50/190-E/1995/73.

the international community to implement the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, and encourages them to strengthen their efforts in that regard;

2. *Reiterates its commitment* to the full implementation of the Programme of Action, and reaffirms that Governments should continue to commit themselves at the highest political level to achieving its goals and objectives, which reflect a new integrated approach to population and development, and to take a lead role in coordinating the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the follow-up actions;

3. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General[153] on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 49/128 and of the proposals contained therein;

4. *Takes note* of the following proposals made by the United Nations Population Fund in the above-mentioned report:

(*a*) To replace the biennial report of the Fund to the Commission on Population and Development on multilateral population assistance by an annual report on the amount of financial resources allocated for the implementation of the Programme of Action at the national and international levels;

(*b*) To refine and improve further, where necessary, the current system devoted to monitoring the amount of international assistance for programmes dealing with population and development so as to render it more accurate;

5. *Endorses* Economic and Social Council decision 1995/320 of 12 December 1995, by which it enlarged the membership of the Commission on Population and Development from 27 to 47 members, elected by the Council from among the members of the United Nations and members of its specialized agencies, in time to take part in the twenty-ninth session of the Commission, and that the regional representation would be 12 for African States, 11 for Asian States, 5 for Eastern European States, 9 for Latin American and Caribbean States and 10 for Western European and Other States, bearing in mind that the representatives of Governments that are to serve on the Commission should have a relevant background in population and development, in order to ensure that it fulfils its functions as reflected in its updated and enhanced mandate, taking into account the integrated multidisciplinary and comprehensive approach of the Programme of Action and the membership of the other functional commissions of the Council;

6. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on monitoring world population trends and policies,[154] and of the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund on monitoring multilateral population assistance;[155]

7. *Renews its call* to all Governments, organizations of the United Nations system and other major groups concerned with population and development issues, including intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, parliamentarians and other community leaders, to continue to give the widest possible dissemination to the Programme of Action, including the use of electronic data networks, to seek public support for its goals, objectives and actions, and to maintain and enhance partnership between Governments and non-governmental organizations so as to ensure their continued contributions and cooperation concerning all aspects of population and development;

8. *Urges* Governments that have not yet done so to establish appropriate national follow-up mechanisms, in partnership with non-governmental organizations, community groups and representatives of the media and the academic community, and to seek the support of parliamentarians so as to ensure the full implementation of the Programme of Action;

9. *Reaffirms* that the follow-up to the Conference, at all levels, should take fully into account that population, health, education, poverty, patterns of production and consumption, empowerment of women and the environment are closely interconnected and should be considered through an integrated approach;

10. *Urges* all countries to consider their current spending priorities with a view to making additional contributions for the implementation of the Programme of Action, taking into account the provisions of chapters XIII and XIV thereof[151] and the economic constraints faced by developing countries, in particular the least developed among them, and emphasizes that international cooperation in the field of population and development is essential for the implementation of the recommendations adopted at the Conference; and in this context, calls upon the international community to continue to provide, both bilaterally and multilaterally, adequate and substantial support and assistance for population and development activities, including through the United Nations Population Fund and other organs and organizations of the United Nations system and the specialized agencies that will be involved in the implementation, at all levels, of the Programme of Action;

11. *Reiterates* the importance of South-South cooperation for the successful implementation of the Programme of Action;

12. *Reaffirms* that the effective implementation of the Programme of Action will require an increased commitment of financial resources, both domestically and externally, and, in this context, calls upon the developed countries to complement the national financial efforts of developing countries on population and development and to intensify their efforts to transfer new and additional resources to the developing countries, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Programme of Action, in order to ensure that population and development objectives and goals are met;

13. *Acknowledges* that countries with economies in transition should receive temporary assistance for population and development activities, in view of the difficult economic and social problems faced by those countries at present;

14. *Urges* the international community to promote a supportive international economic environment by adopting favourable macroeconomic policies aimed at promoting sustained economic growth and sustainable development;

15. *Emphasizes* the importance of the early identification and allocation of financial resources by all members of the international community, including regional financial institutions, to enable them to fulfil their commitments with regard to the implementation of the Programme of Action;

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[154] E/CN.9/1995/2.

[155] E/CN.9/1995/4.

16. *Invites* the Secretary-General to ensure that adequate resources are provided for the Conference follow-up activities to be carried out by the Secretariat during 1996;

17. *Invites* the regional commissions, other regional and subregional organizations and the development banks to continue to examine and analyse the results of implementation of the Programme of Action at the regional level under their respective mandates;

18. *Welcomes* the work undertaken by the Inter-Agency Task Force on the Implementation of the Programme of Action, chaired by the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund, and stresses the importance of continued and enhanced cooperation and coordination by all relevant organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system and the specialized agencies in the implementation of the Programme of Action, and, in this context, notes the establishment of new inter-agency task forces for the follow-up to conferences, which could be relevant for the implementation and follow-up to the International Conference on Population and Development;

19. *Emphasizes the need* to maintain the momentum of the follow-up activities relating to the Conference and the Programme of Action so as to utilize, to the fullest extent possible, existing capacity within the United Nations system in the area of population and development, including the Commission on Population and Development, the Population Division of the Department for Economic and Social Information and Policy Analysis of the Secretariat and the United Nations Population Fund, other organizations, funds and programmes of the United Nations and the specialized agencies whose continued support and commitment are required for the successful implementation of the full range of activities outlined in the Programme of Action, and invites them to work closely in the preparation of reports for the Commission on Population and Development;

20. *Requests* the specialized agencies and all related organizations of the United Nations system to continue to take appropriate measures to ensure the full and effective implementation of the Programme of Action, taking into account the specific needs of developing countries, and welcomes the intention of the Secretary-General to report through the Commission on Population and Development to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1996 on the work of the Inter-Agency Task Force, for coordination purposes, and to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session, for policy implications;

21. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council:

(*a*) To consider relevant reports and give guidance on matters concerning harmonization, cooperation and coordination within the United Nations system regarding the implementation of the Programme of Action;

(*b*) To consider, as appropriate, the reports submitted by the different bodies and organs on various matters related to the Programme of Action;

(*c*) To consider the proposed report on the work of the Inter-Agency Task Force;

22. *Requests* the funds and programmes of the United Nations system and the regional commissions and funds to continue to provide their full and active support to the implementation of the Programme of Action, in particular at the field level, through the United Nations resident coordinator system, and invites the relevant specialized agencies to do the same;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session on the implementation of the present resolution;

24. *Decides* to include in the agenda of its fifty-first session, within existing clusters, the item entitled "Implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development".

96th plenary meeting
20 December 1995

50/126. Water supply and sanitation

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 35/18 of 10 November 1980, by which it proclaimed the period 1981-1990 as the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade,

Recalling also its resolution 45/181 of 21 December 1990, in which it expressed its deep concern about the slow rate of progress in the provision of services in water and sanitation,

Recalling further its resolution 47/193 of 22 December 1992, in which it declared 22 March of each year World Day for Water,

Bearing in mind that the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, held in Paris from 3 to 14 September 1990, the World Summit for Children, held in New York on 29 and 30 September 1990, the Global Strategy for Shelter to the Year 2000 and the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, held at Rio de Janeiro from 3 to 14 June 1992, reiterated the need to provide, on a sustainable basis, access to safe water in sufficient quantities and proper sanitation for all,

Deeply concerned that at the current rate of progress the provision of drinking water will be insufficient to satisfy the needs of a very large number of people by the year 2000 and that the lack of progress in the provision of basic sanitation services is likely to have dramatic environmental and health consequences in the near future,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on progress made in providing safe water supply and sanitation for all during the first half of the 1990s;[156]

2. *Takes note* of the programme strategies in water and environmental sanitation adopted by the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund at its annual session for 1995[157] and of resolution AFR/RC 43/R2 of the Regional Committee for Africa of the World Health Organization, in which the Committee endorsed the Africa 2000 initiative for water supply and sanitation in Africa;

3. *Calls upon* Governments to implement fully the provisions concerning water resources in general and water supply and sanitation in particular contained in chapter 18 of Agenda 21,[43] and the recommendations made by the Commission on Sustainable Development at its second and third sessions,[158] including the recommendations for action contained in the Action Programme of the Ministerial Con-

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[156] A/50/213-E/1995/87.

[157] See E/1995/L.23, sect. IV, decision 1995/22. The final text of the decision will appear in *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1995, Supplement No. 13* (E/1995/33/Rev.1).

[158] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1994, Supplement No. 13* (E/1994/33/Rev.1); and ibid., *1995, Supplement No. 12* (E/1995/32).

ference on Drinking Water and Environmental Sanitation convened by the Government of the Netherlands on 22 and 23 March 1994,[159] in particular:

(*a*) To develop, review or revise by 1997 and implement, in the context of a national sustainable development strategy consistent with Agenda 21, measures for drinking water supply and environmental sanitation, taking into account the goals set by the World Summit for Children;

(*b*) To undertake, as appropriate, legal, regulatory and institutional reforms designed to bring about the management of water resources at the lowest appropriate level, including stakeholder participation and the involvement of the private sector, and to adopt strategies for capacity-building;

(*c*) To assign high priority to programmes designed to provide basic sanitation and excreta disposal systems to urban and rural areas and to the treatment of waste waters, with provisions for community involvement;

(*d*) To formulate and implement investment strategies and cost-recovery policies aimed at generating a flow of financial resources commensurate with needs, taking into account the needs and conditions of the peri-urban and rural poor;

(*e*) To establish or strengthen a nationwide water and sanitation monitoring system, making full use, as appropriate, of the information support system developed by the Joint Monitoring Programme for the Water and Sanitation Sector of the World Health Organization and the United Nations Children's Fund;

4. *Calls upon* the organizations of the United Nations system and other relevant organizations to intensify their efforts concerning financial and technical support for developing countries and countries with economies in transition;

5. *Urges* donor Governments, multilateral financial and development institutions and non-governmental organizations to give favourable and appropriate consideration to requests for grants and concessional financing, particularly with regard to environmental sanitation and sewerage and to waste-water treatment projects, which are intended to implement programmes consistent with the provisions and recommendations referred to in paragraph 3 above;

6. *Decides* to review at its fifty-fifth session the situation at the end of the 1990s and requests the Secretary-General to submit a report to it, through the Commission on Sustainable Development and the Economic and Social Council, containing an assessment of the water supply and sanitation situation in developing countries, including proposals for action for the ensuing decade at the national and international levels.

96th plenary meeting
20 December 1995

50/127. Target for World Food Programme pledges for the period 1997-1998

The General Assembly,

Recalling the provisions of its resolution 2095 (XX) of 20 December 1965 to the effect that the World Food Programme was to be reviewed before each pledging conference,

Noting that the Programme was reviewed by the Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes of the World Food Programme at its thirty-seventh session and by the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1994,

Having considered Economic and Social Council resolution 1995/3 of 13 July 1995 and the comments of the Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes,[160]

Recognizing the value of multilateral food aid as implemented by the World Food Programme since its inception and the necessity for continuing its action both as a form of capital investment and for meeting emergency food needs,

1. *Establishes* a target for voluntary contributions to the World Food Programme of 1.3 billion United States dollars for the period 1997-1998;

2. *Urges* States Members of the United Nations and members and associate members of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and appropriate donor organizations to make every effort to ensure that the target is fully attained;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, to convene a pledging conference for this purpose at Headquarters in 1996.

96th plenary meeting
20 December 1995

50/128. Preventive action and intensification of the struggle against malaria in developing countries, particularly in Africa

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 49/135 of 19 December 1994,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolutions 1994/34 of 29 July 1994 and 1995/63 of 28 July 1995,

Gravely concerned by the fact that malaria causes the death of four million people annually, that hundreds of millions of cases of malaria are reported annually and that infants and children under age five are the major victims,

Alarmed by the loss of human life, the severe degradation in the quality of life and the fact that the social and economic development of developing countries is impeded as a result of malaria, and despite the development of new vaccines,

Recalling agreed conclusions 1993/2 of the coordination segment of the substantive session of 1993 of the Economic and Social Council on the coordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies and other bodies of the United Nations system in the fields of preventive action and intensification of the struggle against malaria and diarrhoeal diseases, in particular cholera,[161]

Acknowledging the importance for countries where malaria is endemic of adopting national plans of action in conformity with the Global Malaria Control Strategy of the World Health Organization,[162] endorsed by the Ministerial Conference on Malaria held at Amsterdam in 1992 and by the World Health Assembly in 1993,

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[159] See E/CN.17/1994/12, annex.

[160] See E/1995/96.

[161] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/48/3/Rev.1), chap. III, sect. B, para. 33.

[162] World Health Organization, *A Global Strategy for Malaria Control* (Geneva, 1993).

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on preventive action and intensification of the struggle against malaria in developing countries, particularly in Africa;[163]

2. *Reaffirms its endorsement* of the Global Malaria Control Strategy of the World Health Organization, as adopted;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* of the efforts of the World Health Organization and the specialized agencies concerned in assisting the developing countries in their efforts to combat endemic diseases;

4. *Notes with appreciation* the continuing efforts of the affected countries to control the disease, in spite of their meagre resources, through national plans and projects, and urges the affected countries that have not yet done so to adopt national plans to control malaria in conformity with the Global Strategy of the World Health Organization;

5. *Stresses* the need for strengthening national capacity-building within the context of primary health care so as to enable developing countries to meet the objectives of the Global Strategy, with a view to contributing to the development of overall health;

6. Endorses the strategies and work plans that have been developed through a collaborative process involving relevant organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system, with the World Health Organization as task coordinator, to provide optimal support to affected developing countries in order to achieve the goals and objectives pertaining to the prevention and control of malaria and diarrhoeal diseases;

7. *Calls upon* the international community, in particular the donor countries, to expand, where possible, fund-raising channels and to provide adequate financial resources and medical and technical assistance to the affected developing countries, in particular African countries and least developed countries, for the successful implementation of work plans and projects and the achievement of significant progress in both the short and the medium term in controlling malaria, and to intensify basic and applied research on anti-malarial vaccines as a priority;

8. *Encourages* the Director-General of the World Health Organization, through the World Health Organization's Division of Control of Tropical Diseases, to continue his efforts to mobilize international organizations, multilateral financial institutions, the specialized agencies, organs and programmes of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations as well as other groups to provide the affected developing countries, in particular African countries, with technical, medical and financial resources and assistance commensurate with the needs set forth in those countries' national plans to control malaria;

9. *Welcomes* the proposal of the Secretary-General related to the struggle against malaria in Africa contained in his initiatives for Africa;

10. *Welcomes with satisfaction* the agreement signed between Dr. Manuel Elkin Patarroyo of Colombia and the World Health Organization, in May 1995, by which Dr. Patarroyo donated to the World Health Organization the licence of the patent rights and know-how related to the SPf66 anti-malarial vaccine developed by him, which constitutes an example of solidarity and effective South-South cooperation for development, and supports the request of the World Health Organization for the provision of additional resources for malaria research under the United Nations Development Programme/World Bank/World Health Organization Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases in order to accomplish its goal of developing an effective vaccine for the control of malaria;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session the progress report of the Director-General of the World Health Organization on the implementation of the strategies and work plans to be prepared in collaboration with the other relevant organs, organizations, bodies and programmes of the United Nations system.

96th plenary meeting
20 December 1995

50/129. Economic and social repercussions of the Israeli settlements on the Palestinian people in the Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, occupied since 1967, and on the Arab population of the occupied Syrian Golan

The General Assembly,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1995/49 of 28 July 1995,

Reaffirming the principle of the permanent sovereignty of people under foreign occupation over their national resources,

Guided by the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, affirming the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force, and recalling Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967 and 497 (1981) of 17 December 1981,

Recalling Security Council resolution 465 (1980) of 1 March 1980 and other resolutions affirming the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[164] to the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967,

Recalling also Security Council resolution 904 (1994) of 18 March 1994, in which, among other things, the Council called upon Israel, the occupying Power, to continue to take and implement measures, including, *inter alia*, confiscation of arms, with the aim of preventing illegal acts of violence by Israeli settlers, and called for measures to be taken to guarantee the safety and protection of the Palestinian civilians in the occupied territory,

Aware of the negative and grave economic and social repercussions of the Israeli settlements on the Palestinian people in the Palestinian territory, occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem, and on the Arab population of the occupied Syrian Golan,

Welcoming the ongoing Middle East peace process started at Madrid, in particular the two implementation agreements embodied in the Agreement on the Gaza Strip and Jericho Area,[165] of 4 May 1994, and the interim agreement on the West Bank and Gaza Strip of 28 September 1995,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[166]

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[163] A/50/180-E/1995/63.

[164] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

[165] A/49/180-S/1994/727, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-ninth Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1994*, document S/1994/727.

[166] See A/50/262-E/1995/59.

2. *Reaffirms* that Israeli settlements in the Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied since 1967 are illegal and an obstacle to economic and social development;

3. *Recognizes* the economic and social repercussions of the Israeli settlements on the Palestinian people in the Palestinian territory occupied by Israel since 1967, including Jerusalem, and on the Arab population of the occupied Syrian Golan;

4. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the Palestinian people and the population of the occupied Syrian Golan to their natural and all other economic resources, and regards any infringement thereupon as illegal;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session, through the Economic and Social Council, a report on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution.

96th plenary meeting
20 December 1995

50/130. Communication for development programmes in the United Nations system

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "Communication for development programmes in the United Nations system",[167] and the comments of the Administrative Committee on Coordination on that report,[168]

Noting the need for the improvement of the development of communication capacities within the United Nations system to ensure effective inter-agency coordination and cooperation,

Recognizing the pivotal role of communication in the successful implementation of development programmes within the United Nations system and in the improvement of the interaction among actors in development, namely, the agencies, organizations, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, Governments and non-governmental organizations,

Recognizing also that the regional commissions can play a role, where appropriate, in the development of communication capacities for the development of developing countries,

Recognizing further the need for transparent and system-wide communication coordination within the United Nations system in order to improve the planning, formulation and execution of development programmes to benefit the international community, in particular the developing countries,

Aware of the need to intensify the efforts aimed at further reducing administrative and other related costs in various activities of agencies, organizations, funds and programmes within the United Nations system and improving the effectiveness of programme delivery as regards development programmes of the United Nations system as a development partner in the development of the developing countries,

Noting that the Joint Inspection Unit will be preparing a separate study entitled "A review of telecommunications and related information technologies in the United Nations system",

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "Communication for development programmes in the United Nations system"[167] and of the comments of the Administrative Committee on Coordination on that report,[168] and, in this context, invites the Joint Inspection Unit to take into consideration the requirements of developing countries;

2. *Recognizes* the important role of communication for development programmes in the United Nations system in enhancing the transparency of system-wide coordination within the United Nations system, *inter alia*, for the development of the developing countries;

3. *Invites* the Committee on Information, in accordance with its mandate, and where appropriate, to consider this question at its forthcoming session;

4. *Recognizes* the need further to facilitate inter-agency cooperation and to maximize the impact of the development programmes of the entities concerned;

5. *Also recognizes* the role of effective communication in disseminating the outcome and follow-up of major United Nations conferences and in ensuring the effective flow of such information to various non-governmental organizations, including grass-roots-level organizations;

6. *Encourages* the relevant agencies, organizations, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, including the regional commissions, as appropriate, to use informal mechanisms such as round-table conferences to improve communication for development programmes in the United Nations system;

7. *Emphasizes* the need for the relevant agencies, organizations, funds and programmes of the United Nations system to develop a systematic approach to capacity-building in the development of communication capacities, particularly with respect to the training of field workers and development workers and technicians as well as communication planners and specialists, especially in the developing countries;

8. *Invites* the relevant agencies, organizations, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, as well as Governments and the regional commissions, to consider identifying focal points for the purpose of facilitating dialogue in the exchange of information on communication on issues related to development so as to strengthen coordination and international cooperation in this area;

9. *Invites* all countries, in particular the donor community, to provide resources, as appropriate, to support initiatives on development of capacities for developing countries;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, in accordance with that agency's mandate in the field of communication and with resolution 4.1, adopted by the General Conference at its twenty-eighth session,[169] to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session on the implementation of the present resolution and on a biennial basis thereafter.

96th plenary meeting
20 December 1995

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[167] A/50/126-E/1995/20, annex.

[168] A/50/126/Add.1-E/1995/20/Add.1, annex.

[169] See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Twenty-eighth Session, Paris, 25 October to 16 November 1995*, vol. 1: *Resolutions*, sect. IV.

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[1] For the decisions adopted on the reports of the Third Committee, see sect. IX.B.5.

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50/135. Measures to combat contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 49/147 of 23 December 1994 and taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1995/12 of 24 February 1995,[2]

Bearing in mind the outcome of the World Conference on Human Rights, held at Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993, and, in particular, the attention given in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action[3] to the elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and other forms of intolerance,

Aware that racism, being one of the exclusionist phenomena plaguing many societies, requires resolute action and cooperation for its eradication,

Having examined the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, including its conclusions and recommendations,[4]

Deeply concerned that, despite continued efforts, racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, as well as acts of racial violence, persist and even grow in magnitude, incessantly adopting new forms, including tendencies to establish policies based on racial, religious, ethnic, cultural and national superiority or exclusivity,

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[2] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1995, Supplement No. 3* and corrigenda (E/1995/23 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. II, sect. A.

[3] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[4] See A/50/476.

Conscious of the fundamental difference between, on the one hand, racism and racial discrimination as governmental policy or resulting from official doctrines of racial superiority or exclusivity and, on the other hand, other manifestations of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance taking place in segments of many societies and perpetrated by individuals or groups, some of which are directed against migrant workers and members of their families,

Underlining the importance of creating conditions which foster greater harmony and tolerance within societies,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;[4]

2. *Expresses its full support* for the work of the Special Rapporteur, and requests him to continue his exchange of views with relevant mechanisms, related United Nations organs and specialized agencies in order to further their effectiveness and mutual cooperation;

3. *Expresses its profound concern at and unequivocal condemnation of* all forms of racism and all racist violence, including related acts of random and indiscriminate violence;

4. *Expresses its deep concern at and condemnation of* manifestations of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance against migrant workers and members of their families and other vulnerable groups in many societies;

5. *Encourages* all States, in accordance with the conclusions and recommendations of the Special Rapporteur in his most recent report, to include in their educational curricula and social programmes, at all levels, as appropriate, knowledge of and tolerance and respect for foreign cultures, peoples and countries;

6. *Supports* the efforts of Governments in taking measures aimed at the eradication of all forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

7. *Recognizes* that Governments should implement and enforce legislation to prevent acts of racism and racial discrimination;

8. *Calls upon* all Governments and intergovernmental organizations, with the assistance of non-governmental organizations, as appropriate, to continue to cooperate with and to supply relevant information to the Special Rapporteur;

9. *Urges* all Governments to cooperate fully with the Special Rapporteur, with a view to enabling him to fulfil his mandate;

10. *Requests once again* the Secretary-General promptly to provide the Special Rapporteur with all the necessary human and financial assistance in carrying out his mandate and enabling him to submit, in a timely manner, a preliminary report to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session on this question.

97th plenary meeting
21 December 1995

50/136. Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its objectives set forth in the Charter of the United Nations to achieve international cooperation in solving problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character and in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion,

Reaffirming also its firm determination and its commitment to eradicate totally and unconditionally racism, in all its forms, and racial discrimination,

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[5] the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination[6] and the Convention against Discrimination in Education adopted by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on 14 December 1960,[7]

Recalling also the outcome of the two World Conferences to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, held at Geneva in 1978 and 1983,

Recalling with satisfaction the outcome of the World Conference on Human Rights, held at Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993, and, in particular, the attention given in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action[3] to the elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and other forms of intolerance,

Stressing the importance of the activities of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance,

Recalling its resolution 49/146 of 23 December 1994, the annex to which contains the revised Programme of Action for the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination (1993-2003),

Noting with grave concern that, despite the efforts of the international community, the principal objectives of the two Decades for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination have not been attained and that millions of human beings continue to this day to be the victims of varied forms of racism and racial discrimination,

Deeply concerned about the current trend of the evolution of racism into discriminatory practices based on culture, nationality, religion or language,

Recalling in particular its resolution 48/91 of 20 December 1993, by which it proclaimed the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination,

Having considered the reports submitted by the Secretary-General[8] within the framework of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Third Decade,

Firmly convinced of the need to take more effective and sustained measures at the national and international levels for the elimination of all forms of racism and racial discrimination,

Recognizing the importance of strengthening national legislation and institutions for the promotion of racial harmony,

Deeply concerned about the fact that the phenomenon of racism and racial discrimination against migrant workers continues to increase despite efforts undertaken by the international community to improve the protection of the human rights of migrant workers and members of their families,

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[5] Resolution 217 A (III).

[6] Resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.

[7] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 429, No. 6193.

[8] E/1995/111 and Add.1 and A/50/493.

Recalling the adoption at its forty-fifth session of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,[9]

Acknowledging that indigenous people are at times victims of particular forms of racism and racial discrimination,

1. *Declares once again* that all forms of racism and racial discrimination, whether in their institutionalized form or resulting from official doctrines of racial superiority or exclusivity, such as ethnic cleansing, are among the most serious violations of human rights in the contemporary world and must be combated by all available means;

2. *Recalls with satisfaction* the proclamation of the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, which began in 1993, and requests the Secretary-General to make a further review of the Programme of Action with a view to making it more effective and action-oriented;

3. *Calls upon* Governments to cooperate more closely with the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance to enable him to fulfil his mandate;

4. *Urges* all Governments to take all necessary measures to combat new forms of racism, in particular by adapting constantly the means provided to combat them, especially in the legislative, administrative, educational and information fields;

5. *Decides* that the international community in general and the United Nations in particular should give the highest priority to programmes for combating racism and racial discrimination and should intensify their efforts, during the Third Decade, to provide assistance and relief to the victims of racism and all forms of racial discrimination;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to accord special attention to the situation of migrant workers and members of their families and to include regularly in his reports all information on such workers;

7. *Calls upon* all Member States to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families as a matter of priority;

8. *Commends* all States which have ratified or acceded to the international instruments to combat racism and racial discrimination;

9. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue the study on the effects of racial discrimination on the children of minorities, in particular those of migrant workers, in the fields of education, training and employment, and to submit, *inter alia*, specific recommendations for the implementation of measures to combat the effects of that discrimination;

10. *Urges* the Secretary-General, United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies, all Governments, intergovernmental organizations and relevant non-governmental organizations, in implementing the Programme of Action for the Third Decade, to pay particular attention to the situation of indigenous people;

11. *Requests* States to consider the relevant decisions of the Economic and Social Council on the integrated follow-up to previous world conferences and the need to make optimum use of all available mechanisms in the struggle against racism;

12. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to consult Member States and intergovernmental, as well as non-governmental, organizations on the possibility of holding a world conference to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and other related contemporary forms of intolerance;

13. *Renews its invitation* to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to expedite the preparation of teaching materials and teaching aids to promote teaching, training and educational activities on human rights and against racism and racial discrimination, with particular emphasis on activities at the primary and secondary levels of education;

14. *Considers* that all the parts of the Programme of Action for the Third Decade should be given equal attention in order to attain the objectives of the Decade;

15. *Regrets* that some of the activities scheduled for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination have not been implemented for lack of adequate resources;

16. *Considers* that voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund for the Programme for the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination are indispensable for the implementation of the Programme;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the necessary financial resources are provided for the implementation of the activities of the Third Decade during the biennium 1996-1997;

18. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to accord the highest priority to the activities of the Programme of Action for the Third Decade;

19. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to submit each year to the Economic and Social Council a detailed report on all activities of United Nations bodies and the specialized agencies, containing an analysis of information received on such activities to combat racism and racial discrimination;

20. *Invites* the Secretary-General to submit proposals to the General Assembly with a view to supplementing, if necessary, the Programme of Action for the Third Decade;

21. *Invites* all Governments, United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies and other intergovernmental organizations, as well as interested non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, to participate fully in the Third Decade;

22. *Notes* that unless a supplementary financial effort is made very few of the activities planned for the period 1994-1997 will be carried out;

23. *Strongly appeals* to all Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and individuals in a position to do so to contribute generously to the Trust Fund for the Programme for the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, and to this end requests the Secretary-General to continue to undertake appropriate contacts and initiatives to encourage contributions;

24. *Decides* to keep the item entitled "Elimination of racism and racial discrimination" on its agenda and to consider it as a matter of the highest priority at its fifty-first session.

97th plenary meeting
21 December 1995

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[9] Resolution 45/158, annex.

50/137. Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions concerning the reports of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination and its resolutions on the status of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[6]

Reiterating the importance of the Convention, which is one of the most widely accepted human rights instruments adopted under the auspices of the United Nations,

Aware of the importance of the contributions of the Committee to the efforts of the United Nations to combat racism and all other forms of discrimination based on race, colour, descent or national or ethnic origin,

Reiterating once again the need to intensify the struggle for the elimination of all forms of racism and racial discrimination throughout the world, especially its most brutal forms,

Emphasizing the obligation of all States parties to the Convention to take legislative, judicial and other measures in order to secure full implementation of the provisions of the Convention,

Bearing in mind the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[3] in particular section II.B, relating to equality, dignity and tolerance, and General Assembly resolution 49/208 of 23 December 1994, in particular paragraph 7 thereof,

Concerned that the amendment to the Convention regarding the financing of the Committee, as decided upon at the Fourteenth Meeting of States Parties to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination on 15 January 1992[10] and endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 47/111 of 16 December 1992, has not yet entered into force,

Welcoming efforts of the Secretary-General to ensure interim financial arrangements for the financing of the expenses incurred by the Committee,

Stressing the importance of enabling the Committee to function smoothly and to have all necessary facilities for the effective performance of its functions under the Convention,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financial situation of the Committee,[11]

1. *Commends* the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination for its work with regard to the implementation of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination[12] and its contribution to the preparation for the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination;

2. *Encourages* the Committee to contribute fully to the implementation of the Third Decade and its revised Programme of Action,[13] including by the continued collaboration and flow of information between the Committee and the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities and the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;[14]

3. *Welcomes* the cooperation and exchange of information between the Committee and the relevant structures and mechanisms of the United Nations, such as meetings held with the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in the territory of the former Yugoslavia and the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance[15] and encourages their continuation in the future, including with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights;

4. *Encourages* the use of innovatory procedures by the Committee for reviewing the implementation of the Convention in States whose reports are overdue and the formulating of concluding observations on reports of States parties to the Convention;

5. *Commends* the Committee for its continuous efforts to improve its contribution to the prevention of racial discrimination, including early warning and urgent procedures, and welcomes its relevant decisions and action thereon;[16]

6. *Welcomes* decision 9 (46) of 17 March 1995 adopted by the Committee, entitled "Contribution of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination to the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education" and general recommendation XIX (47) on article 3 of the Convention;[17]

7. *Urges* all States which have not yet ratified or acceded to the Convention to do so as soon as possible;

8. *Encourages* States to limit the extent of any reservation they lodge to the Convention and to formulate any reservation as precisely and as narrowly as possible while ensuring that no reservation is incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention or otherwise contrary to international law;

9. *Expresses its profound concern* at the fact that a number of States parties have still not fulfilled their financial obligations, as shown in the report of the Secretary-General;[18]

10. *Urges* States parties to accelerate their domestic ratification procedures with regard to the amendment to the Convention concerning the financing of the Committee and expeditiously to notify the Secretary-General in writing of their agreement to the amendment, as decided upon at the Fourteenth Meeting of States Parties to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination[10] on 15 January 1992 and endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 47/111 of 16 December 1992;

11. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Committee on the work of its forty-sixth and forty-seventh sessions;[19]

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure adequate financial arrangements and appropriate means to enable the functioning of the Committee;

13. *Calls upon* States parties to fulfil their obligations

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[10] See A/49/499, annex I.

[11] A/50/467.

[12] Resolution 38/14, annex.

[13] Resolution 49/146, annex.

[14] See A/50/18, chap. VIII.

[15] Ibid., chap. I, para. 13.

[16] Ibid., chap. II.

[17] Ibid., chap. I, paras. 17 and 18, and annexes III and VII.

[18] A/50/467, annex I.

[19] A/50/18.

under article 9, paragraph 1, of the Convention, to submit in due time their periodic reports on measures taken to implement the Convention and to pay their outstanding contributions;

14. *Strongly appeals* to all States parties which are in arrears to fulfil their outstanding financial obligations under article 8, paragraph 6, of the Convention;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to invite those States parties which are in arrears to pay the amounts in arrears and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session;

16. *Decides* to consider at its fifty-first session, under the item entitled "Elimination of racism and racial discrimination", the report of the Secretary-General on the financial situation of the Committee and the report of the Committee;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to draw the present resolution to the attention of States parties to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination.

97th plenary meeting
21 December 1995

50/138. Use of mercenaries as a means to violate human rights and to impede the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 49/150 of 23 December 1994,

Recalling also all of its relevant resolutions, in which, *inter alia*, it condemned any State which permitted or tolerated the recruitment, financing, training, assembly, transit and use of mercenaries with the objective of overthrowing the Governments of States Members of the United Nations, especially those of developing countries, or of fighting against national liberation movements, and recalling also the relevant resolutions of the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council and the Organization of African Unity,

Reaffirming the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations concerning the strict observance of the principles of sovereign equality, political independence, territorial integrity of States and self-determination of peoples,

Alarmed and concerned about the danger that the activities of mercenaries constitute to peace and security in developing countries, particularly in Africa and in small States, where democratically elected Governments have been overthrown by mercenaries or through mercenary international criminal activities,

Deeply concerned about the loss of life, the substantial damage to property and the negative effects on the polity and economies of affected countries resulting from mercenary aggression and criminal activities,

Convinced that it is necessary for Member States to ratify the International Convention against the Recruitment, Use, Financing and Training of Mercenaries,[20] adopted by the General Assembly in 1989, and to develop and maintain international cooperation among States for the prevention, prosecution and punishment of mercenary activities,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights[21] on the use of mercenaries and mercenary-related activities to topple sovereign Governments and to undermine the rights of peoples to self-determination despite resolution 49/150;

2. *Reaffirms* that the use of mercenaries and their recruitment, financing and training are causes for grave concern to all States and violate the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations;

3. *Urges* all States to take the necessary steps and to exercise the utmost vigilance against the menace posed by the activities of mercenaries and to take necessary legislative measures to ensure that their territories and other territories under their control, as well as their nationals, are not used for the recruitment, assembly, financing, training and transit of mercenaries for the planning of activities designed to destabilize or overthrow the Government of any State or threaten the territorial integrity and political unity of sovereign States, or to promote secession or fight the national liberation movements struggling against colonial or other forms of alien domination or occupation;

4. *Calls upon* all States which have not yet done so to consider taking necessary action to sign or to ratify the International Convention against the Recruitment, Use, Financing and Training of Mercenaries;

5. *Urges* all States to cooperate with the Special Rapporteur in the fulfilment of his mandate;

6. *Requests* the Centre for Human Rights of the Secretariat, as a matter of priority, to publicize the adverse effects of mercenary activities on the right to self-determination and, when requested where necessary, to render advisory services to States which are affected by the activities of mercenaries;

7. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to report, with specific recommendations, his findings on the new elements identified in the use of mercenaries to undermine the rights of peoples to self-determination to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session.

97th plenary meeting
21 December 1995

50/139. Universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the importance, for the effective guarantee and observance of human rights, of the universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and embodied in the International Covenants on Human Rights,[22] as well as in the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples contained in its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960,

Welcoming the progressive exercise of the right to self-determination by peoples under colonial, foreign or alien occupation and their emergence into sovereign statehood and independence,

Deeply concerned at the continuation of acts or threats of foreign military intervention and occupation that are threatening to suppress, or have already suppressed, the right to self-determination of an increasing number of sovereign peoples and nations,

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[20] Resolution 44/34, annex.

[21] A/50/390 and Add.1.

[22] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

Expressing grave concern that, as a consequence of the persistence of such actions, millions of people have been and are being uprooted from their homes as refugees and displaced persons, and emphasizing the urgent need for concerted international action to alleviate their condition,

Recalling the relevant resolutions regarding the violation of the right of peoples to self-determination and other human rights as a result of foreign military intervention, aggression and occupation, adopted by the Commission on Human Rights at its thirty-sixth,[23] thirty-seventh,[24] thirty-eighth,[25] thirty-ninth,[26] fortieth,[27] forty-first,[28] forty-second,[29] forty-third,[30] forty-fourth,[31] forty-fifth,[32] forty-sixth,[33] forty-seventh,[34] forty-eighth,[35] forty-ninth,[36] fiftieth[37] and fifty-first sessions,[38]

Reaffirming its resolutions 35/35 B of 14 November 1980, 36/10 of 28 October 1981, 37/42 of 3 December 1982, 38/16 of 22 November 1983, 39/18 of 23 November 1984, 40/24 of 29 November 1985, 41/100 of 4 December 1986, 42/94 of 7 December 1987, 43/105 of 8 December 1988, 44/80 of 8 December 1989, 45/131 of 14 December 1990, 46/88 of 16 December 1991, 47/83 of 16 December 1992, 48/93 of 20 December 1993 and 49/148 of 23 December 1994,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the right of peoples to self-determination,[39]

1. *Reaffirms* that the universal realization of the right of all peoples, including those under colonial, foreign and alien domination, to self-determination is a fundamental condition for the effective guarantee and observance of human rights and for the preservation and promotion of such rights;

2. *Declares its firm opposition* to acts of foreign military intervention, aggression and occupation, since these have resulted in the suppression of the right of peoples to self-determination and other human rights in certain parts of the world;

3. *Calls upon* those States responsible to cease immediately their military intervention in and occupation of foreign countries and territories and all acts of repression, discrimination, exploitation and maltreatment, particularly the brutal and inhuman methods reportedly employed for the execution of those acts against the peoples concerned;

4. *Deplores* the plight of the millions of refugees and displaced persons who have been uprooted as a result of the aforementioned acts, and reaffirms their right to return to their homes voluntarily in safety and honour;

5. *Requests* the Commission on Human Rights to continue to give special attention to the violation of human rights, especially the right to self-determination, resulting from foreign military intervention, aggression or occupation;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report on this question to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session under the item entitled "Right of peoples to self-determination".

97th plenary meeting
21 December 1995

50/140. The right of the Palestinian people to self-determination

The General Assembly,

Aware that the development of friendly relations among nations, based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples, is among the purposes and principles of the United Nations, as defined in its Charter,

Recalling the International Covenants on Human Rights,[22] the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[5] the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,[40] and the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[3]

Noting the progress made in the Middle East peace process, in particular the mutual recognition and the signing of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements in Washington on 13 September 1993 by the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Government of Israel,[41] as well as the ensuing implementation agreements, the last of which was the interim agreement of 28 September 1995,

Affirming the right of all States in the region to live in peace within secure and internationally recognized borders,

1. *Reaffirms* the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination;

2. *Expresses the hope* that the Palestinian people could soon be exercising their right to self-determination in the current peace process;

3. *Urges* all States, specialized agencies and organizations of the United Nations system to continue to support the Palestinian people in their quest for self-determination.

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[23] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1980, Supplement No. 3* and corrigendum (E/1980/13 and Corr.1), chap. XXVI, sect. A.

[24] Ibid., *1981, Supplement No. 5* and corrigendum (E/1981/25 and Corr.1), chap. XXVIII, sect. A.

[25] Ibid., *1982, Supplement No. 2* and corrigendum (E/1982/12 and Corr.1), chap. XXVI, sect. A.

[26] Ibid., *1983, Supplement No. 3* and corrigendum (E/1983/13 and Corr.1), chap. XXVII, sect. A.

[27] Ibid., *1984, Supplement No. 4* and corrigendum (E/1984/14 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

[28] Ibid., *1985, Supplement No. 2* (E/1985/22), chap. II, sect. A.

[29] Ibid., *1986, Supplement No. 2* (E/1986/22), chap. II, sect. A.

[30] Ibid., *1987, Supplement No. 5* and corrigenda (E/1987/18 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. II, sect. A.

[31] Ibid., *1988, Supplement No. 2* and corrigendum (E/1988/12 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

32Ibid., *1989, Supplement No. 2* (E/1989/20), chap. II, sect. A.

[33] Ibid., *1990, Supplement No. 2* and corrigendum (E/1990/22 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

34Ibid., *1991, Supplement No. 2* (E/1991/22), chap. II, sect. A.

[35] Ibid., *1992, Supplement No. 2* (E/1992/22), chap. II, sect. A.

[36] Ibid., *1993, Supplement No. 3* (E/1993/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[37] Ibid., *1994, Supplement No. 4* and corrigendum (E/1994/24 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

[38] Ibid., *1995, Supplement No. 3* and corrigenda (E/1995/23 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. II, sect. A.

[39] A/50/485.

[40] Resolution 1514 (XV).

[41] A/48/486-S/26560, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-eighth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1993*, document S/26560.

50/141. International Year of Older Persons: towards a society for all ages

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 47/5 of 16 October 1992, the annex to which contains the Proclamation on Ageing, by which the Assembly decided to observe the year 1999 as the International Year of Older Persons,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolution 1993/22 of 27 July 1993, in which the Council invited Member States to strengthen their national mechanisms on ageing, *inter alia*, to enable them to serve as national focal points for the preparations for and observance of the Year,

Recalling further its resolution 45/106 of 14 December 1990, in which it recognized the complexity and rapidity of the ageing of the world's population and the need to have a common basis and frame of reference for the protection and promotion of the rights of older persons, including the contribution that older persons could and should make to society,

Bearing in mind its resolution 49/162 of 23 December 1994 on the integration of older women in development,

1. *Takes note* of the conceptual framework of a programme for the preparation and observance of the International Year of Older Persons in 1999, as contained in the report of the Secretary-General;[42]

2. *Invites* Member States to adapt the conceptual framework to national conditions and to consider formulating national programmes for the Year;

3. *Invites* the United Nations organizations and bodies concerned to examine the conceptual framework and identify areas for expanding upon it in keeping with their mandates;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to monitor activities for the Year and to make appropriate coordinating arrangements, bearing in mind that the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development of the Secretariat has been designated the United Nations focal point on ageing;

5. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to allocate sufficient resources for promoting and coordinating activities for the Year, bearing in mind resolution 47/5, in which it was decided that observance of the Year would be supported by the regular programme budget for the biennium 1998-1999;

6. *Invites* Member States, United Nations organizations and bodies and non-governmental organizations to assist the global coordinating entity for the Year;

7. *Invites* the regional commissions, within the existing mandates, to bear in mind the goals of the Year when convening regional meetings in 1998 and 1999 at which to mark the Year and formulate action plans on ageing for the twenty-first century;

8. *Encourages* relevant United Nations funds and programmes and the specialized agencies to support local, national and international programmes and projects for the Year;

9. *Encourages* the United Nations Development Programme to continue to ensure that the concerns of older persons are integrated into its development programmes;

10. *Invites* the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development and other relevant research institutes to consider preparing studies on the four facets of the conceptual framework, namely, the situation of older persons, lifelong individual development, multigenerational relationships and the relationship between the ageing of populations and development, and requests the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women to continue its research on the situation of older women, including those in the informal sector;

11. *Encourages* the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat to launch, within existing resources, an information campaign for the Year;

12. *Invites* the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights to continue its work on ageing and the situation of older persons, as described in its reports;[43]

13. *Invites* non-governmental organizations to develop programmes and projects for the Year, particularly at the local level, in cooperation, *inter alia*, with local authorities, community leaders, enterprises, the media and schools;

14. *Decides* that henceforth the term "older persons" should be substituted for the term "the elderly", in conformity with the United Nations Principles for Older Persons,[44] with the result that the Year and the Day concerned shall be called the International Year of Older Persons and the International Day of Older Persons;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session on the preparations being made by Member States, United Nations organizations and bodies and non-governmental organizations for the observance of the Year.

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21 December 1995

50/142. Follow-up to the International Year of the Family

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 44/82 of 8 December 1989, 45/133 of 14 December 1990, 46/92 of 16 December 1991 and 47/237 of 20 September 1993, concerning the proclamation, preparations for and observance of the International Year of the Family,

Taking note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General on the observance of the International Year of the Family,[45]

Bearing in mind the results of the International Conference on Population and Development,[46] the World Summit for Social Development[47] and the Fourth World Conference on Women,[48] within which it was noted that the family is the basic unit of society and as such should be strengthened, that it is entitled to receive comprehensive protection and support, that in different cultural, political and social systems various forms of family exist and that the rights, capabilities and responsibilities of family members must be respected,

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[42] A/50/114.

[43] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1994, Supplement No. 3* (E/1994/23), and ibid., *1995, Supplement No. 2* and corrigendum (E/1995/22 and Corr.1).

[44] Resolution 46/91, annex.

[45] A/50/370.

[46] See *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18).

[47] See A/CONF.166/9.

[48] See A/CONF.177/20 and Add.1.

Noting the accomplishments resulting from the observance of the International Year of the Family, *inter alia*, the new initiatives and long-term activities in support of the family all over the world, in particular at the local and national levels, and the value of international cooperation on family issues,

1. *Invites* Governments to continue their action to build family-friendly societies, *inter alia*, by promoting the rights of individual family members, in particular gender equality and the protection and development of the child;

2. *Urges* Governments to ratify or accede to and to ensure implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[49] so that universal ratification can be achieved by the year 2000 and to take urgent measures to achieve universal ratification of or accession to the Convention on the Rights of the Child[50] before the end of 1995, and urges those who have not yet done so to become party to the Convention in order to achieve universal implementation by the year 2000;

3. *Welcomes* the proposals, contained in the report of the Secretary-General, on the follow-up to the International Year of the Family;[51]

4. *Invites* the Commission for Social Development to consider how best to integrate the follow-up to the International Year of the Family into its work programme as laid out in Economic and Social Council resolution 1995/60 of 28 July 1995, taking into account the integrated follow-up of major United Nations conferences, to form part of a holistic approach to development and social progress;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(*a*) To submit proposals to the Commission for Social Development in order to assist the Commission in its work;

(*b*) To prepare a comprehensive document containing the family-related provisions from the outcome of the World Summit for Children,[52] the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development,[53] the World Conference on Human Rights,[54] the International Conference on Population and Development,[46] the World Summit for Social Development,[47] the Fourth World Conference on Women,[48] and the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), to be submitted to the Commission for Social Development at its thirty-fifth session;

(*c*) To report to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session, through the Commission for Social Development and the Economic and Social Council, on the progress made on the follow-up to the International Year of the Family, taking into account the promotion of integrated reporting;

(*d*) To continue the operation of the Voluntary Fund for the International Year of the Family, to be renamed the United Nations Trust Fund on Family Activities, to provide financial assistance for activities specific to the family and projects of direct benefit to it, with special focus on least developed and developing countries, giving particular attention to non-traditional resources;

6. *Calls upon* Governments, as well as organizations, individuals and the private sector, to contribute generously to the United Nations Trust Fund on Family Activities.

97th plenary meeting
21 December 1995

50/143. Progress made and problems encountered in the struggle against illiteracy: a mid-decade review—cooperation to achieve education for all

The General Assembly,

Recalling that in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[5] and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights[22] the inalienable right of every individual to education is recognized,

Recalling also its resolutions 42/104 of 7 December 1987, by which it proclaimed 1990 as International Literacy Year, and 44/127 of 15 December 1989 and 46/93 of 16 December 1991, in which it called for continuing international efforts to promote literacy,

Recalling further its resolution 45/126 of 14 December 1990, in which it called for strengthening efforts towards the elimination of illiteracy of women of all ages,

Mindful of the fact that the eradication of illiteracy is one of the paramount objectives of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade,[55]

Convinced that literacy, especially functional literacy and adequate education, represents an indispensable element for the development and harnessing of science, technology and human resources for economic and social progress,

Confident that the International Literacy Year and the World Conference on Education for All, held at Jomtien, Thailand, in 1990, resulted in increased awareness and support for literacy efforts and became a turning-point in the struggle for a literate world,

Underlining the importance of maintaining the momentum generated by the Year and the spirit of partnership forged at the Jomtien Conference,

Welcoming the setting up of the International Consultative Forum on Education for All entrusted with the task of monitoring the progress towards education for all and promoting consultation and cooperation at the global level,

Recognizing that, despite the significant advances registered in the growth of literacy rates in many parts of the world, major problems still persist which require greater mobilization of efforts at both national and international levels to achieve the goal of education for all,

Stressing the importance of the effective implementation of the World Declaration on Education for All,[56] and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural

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[49] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[50] Resolution 44/25, annex.

[51] A/50/370, sect. XVI.

[52] A/45/625, annex.

[53] See *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992* (A/CONF.151/26/Rev.1 (Vol. I and Vol. I/Corr.1, Vol. II, Vol. III and Vol. III/Corr.1)) (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda).

[54] See A/CONF.157/24 (Part I).

[55] Resolution 45/199, annex.

[56] *Final Report of the World Conference on Education for All: Meeting Basic Learning Needs, Jomtien, Thailand, 5-9 March 1990*, Inter-Agency Commission (UNDP, UNESCO, UNICEF, World Bank) for the World Conference on Education for All, New York, 1990, appendix 1.

Organization Plan of Action for the Eradication of Illiteracy by the Year 2000,[57] as well as the relevant commitments and recommendations to promote literacy contained, *inter alia*, in the Plan of Action for Implementing the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children in the 1990s[58] of the World Summit for Children, the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,[59] the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development,[60] the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women[61] and the Delhi Declaration of the Education for All Summit of Nine High-Population Developing Countries,[62]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Progress made and problems encountered in the struggle against illiteracy: a mid-decade review";[63]

2. *Notes with appreciation* the close collaboration and commendable work being pursued as a follow-up to the International Literacy Year and the World Conference on Education for All by the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, including the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund and the United Nations Development Programme;

3. *Commends* those Governments which have launched national literacy programmes and attained notable progress in meeting the objectives of the International Literacy Year and those set forth in the World Declaration on Education for All;[56]

4. *Invites* Member States, specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to further intensify their efforts to effectively implement the World Declaration on Education for All, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization Plan of Action for the Eradication of Illiteracy by the Year 2000,[57] as well as the relevant commitments and recommendations to promote literacy contained, *inter alia*, in the Plan of Action for Implementing the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children in the 1990s[58] of the World Summit for Children, the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,[59] the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development,[60] the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women,[61] and the Delhi Declaration of the Education for All Summit of Nine High-Population Developing Countries,[62] with a view to better coordinating their activities and increasing their contribution to development;

5. *Appeals anew* to Governments and economic and financial organizations and institutions, both national and international, to lend greater financial and material support to the efforts to increase literacy and achieve education for all;

6. *Calls upon* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to continue assuming the role of lead organization in ensuring an effective follow-up to the International Literacy Year and to pursue, in cooperation with other sponsors of the World Conference on Education for All, the implementation of the World Declaration on Education for All;

7. *Notes with satisfaction* the firm commitment and active involvement of many non-governmental organizations, the mass media and the private sector in support of and in the follow-up to the International Literacy Year;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, to submit to the General Assembly, at its fifty-second session, in 1997, through the Economic and Social Council, a progress report on the implementation process of the education for all objectives, including the recommendations of the International Consultative Forum on Education for All, taking into account the possible measures, if any, to improve the reporting procedure;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-second session the question of cooperation to achieve education for all under the item on social development.

97th plenary meeting
21 December 1995

50/144. Towards full integration of persons with disabilities in society: implementation of the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities and of the Long-term Strategy to Implement the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons to the Year 2000 and Beyond

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 48/96 of 20 December 1993, by which it adopted the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities,

Recalling also its resolution 37/52 of 3 December 1982, by which it adopted the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons,[64]

Recalling further all its relevant resolutions, including resolutions 37/53 of 3 December 1982, 46/96 of 16 December 1991, 47/88 of 16 December 1992, 48/95 and 48/99 of 20 December 1993 and 49/153 of 23 December 1994,

Taking note of resolution 34/2 of 20 April 1995 of the Commission for Social Development,[65] wherein it is stated, *inter alia*, that the Standard Rules are to be monitored within the framework of the sessions of the Commission, and that the purpose of such monitoring is to further their effective implementation,

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[57] See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Twenty-fifth Session, Paris, 17 October to 16 November 1989, vol. 1, Resolutions.*

[58] See A/45/625.

[59] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[60] A/CONF.166/9, chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[61] A/CONF.177/20, chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[62] *Report of the Director-General on the Education for All Summit of Nine High-Population Developing Countries, New Delhi, 13-16 December 1993*, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, Executive Board, document 144 EX/30, annex.

[63] A/50/181-E/1995/65.

[64] A/37/351/Add.1 and Corr.1, annex, sect. VIII, recommendation 1 (IV).

[65] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1995, Supplement No. 4* (E/1995/24), chap. I, sect. E.

Noting with interest the initiative taken by non-governmental organizations to develop a disability index based on the Standard Rules, as well as other activities related to the Standard Rules and activities in support of the World Programme of Action,

Welcoming the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission for Social Development on monitoring the implementation of the Standard Rules and his recommendation that, in the coming two years, the focus should be mainly on legislation, coordination of work, organizations of persons with disabilities, accessibility, education and employment,[66]

Welcoming also the unreserved reaffirmation in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[3] of all the human rights and fundamental freedoms of persons with disabilities, and the recognition in both the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development[59] and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development[67] of a pressing need, among others, for the realization of the goals of full participation in society and the equalization of opportunities for persons with disabilities, as well as the recognition by the Fourth World Conference on Women, held at Beijing from 4 to 15 September 1995,[48] of the special needs of women with disabilities,

1. *Recalls* the recognition by the World Summit for Social Development of the need to promote the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities;

2. *Urges* all Governments and organizations to continue to strengthen their efforts to implement the Standard Rules by appropriate legal, administrative and other measures, taking into account the integrated social development strategy set out in the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development;[67]

3. *Encourages* Governments of Member States to respond to the questionnaire sent by the Special Rapporteur of the Commission for Social Development;

4. *Encourages* Member States to make contributions to the United Nations Voluntary Fund on Disability to support initiatives on disability, including the important work of the Special Rapporteur;

5. *Calls upon* Governments, when implementing the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons,[64] to take into account the elements suggested in the Long-term Strategy to Implement the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons to the Year 2000 and Beyond;[68]

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure appropriate support for the effective functioning of the Long-term Strategy;

7. *Encourages* the use of communications networks for the dissemination to the general public of the Standard Rules, the World Programme of Action and the Long-term Strategy;

8. *Encourages* the Secretary-General, the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development of the Secretariat and the United Nations organizations concerned, particularly the United Nations Development Programme, to continue their efforts to facilitate the collection and transmission of relevant data to be used to finalize, in consultation with Member States, the development of global disability indicators, and requests the Secretary-General to submit a report on this question to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session.

97th plenary meeting
21 December 1995

50/145. Ninth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders

The General Assembly,

Emphasizing the responsibility assumed by the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice in pursuance of Economic and Social Council resolution 155 C (VII) of 13 August 1948 and General Assembly resolution 415 (V) of 1 December 1950,

Acknowledging that the United Nations congresses on the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders, as major intergovernmental forums, have influenced national policies and practices and promoted international cooperation in this field by facilitating the exchange of views and experiences, mobilizing public opinion and recommending policy options at the national, regional and international levels,

Recalling its resolution 46/152 of 18 December 1991, in the annex to which Member States affirmed that the United Nations congresses on the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders should be held every five years and should provide a forum for, *inter alia*, the exchange of views between States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and individual experts representing various professions and disciplines, the exchange of experiences in research, law and policy development and the identification of emerging trends and issues in crime prevention and criminal justice,

Bearing in mind the theme for the Ninth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, which was "Less crime, more justice: security for all", and the importance of achieving this goal at the national and international levels,

Deeply concerned about the rising levels of crime in many parts of the world, particularly transnational organized crime and its negative effects on socio-economic development, political stability and the internal and external security of States, as well as on the well-being of people,

Convinced that the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme has a significant role to play in enhancing regional and interregional cooperation in crime prevention and criminal justice in order to achieve further progress in this area, including the mobilization and coordination of efforts by Member States to combat crime in all its forms and to ensure greater justice,

Recalling its resolution 49/157 of 23 December 1994, in which it requested the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to give priority attention at its fourth session to the conclusions and recommendations of the Ninth Congress, with a view to recommending, through the Economic and Social Council, appropriate follow-up by the General Assembly at its fiftieth session,

Having considered the report of the Ninth Congress[69] and the related recommendations made by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its fourth session,[70]

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[66] See A/50/374, annex.

[67] A/CONF.166/9, chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[68] A/49/435, annex.

[69] A/CONF.169/16.

1. *Expresses its satisfaction* with the results achieved by the Ninth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, held at Cairo from 29 April to 8 May 1995;

2. *Expresses its profound gratitude* to the Government and people of Egypt for the generous hospitality extended to the participants at the Ninth Congress and for the efficient facilities, staff and services placed at their disposal;

3. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Ninth Congress, which contains the results of the Congress, including the recommendations and suggestions made at the workshops, at the special plenary meeting on combating corruption involving public officials and at the special plenary meeting on technical cooperation;

4. *Endorses* the resolutions adopted by the Ninth Congress, as approved by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, and also endorses the recommendations made by the Commission, at its fourth session, and by the Economic and Social Council, at its substantive session of 1995, on the implementation of the resolutions and recommendations of the Ninth Congress, as contained in Council resolution 1995/27 of 24 July 1995;

5. *Invites* Governments to be guided by the resolutions and recommendations of the Ninth Congress in formulating legislation and policy directives and to make all efforts to implement the principles contained therein, in accordance with the economic, social, legal, cultural and political circumstances of each country;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to pay particular attention to the operational aspects of the follow-up to the Ninth Congress in order to assist interested States in strengthening the rule of law by reinforcing their national machinery, promoting human resource development, undertaking joint training activities and executing pilot and demonstration projects, and urges the Department for Development Support and Management Services of the Secretariat, the United Nations Development Programme, the World Bank and other funding agencies to continue to provide financial support and assistance within the framework of their technical cooperation programmes;

7. *Urges* all entities of the United Nations system, including the regional commissions, the regional institutes for the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders and the relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to become actively involved in the implementation of the resolutions and recommendations of the Ninth Congress, paying particular attention to the needs and priorities identified by Member States;

8. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States, institutes and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations which have provided human and financial resources, particularly on the occasion of the Ninth Congress, and invites Governments to lend their support to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme and to increase their financial contributions to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Trust Fund;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to circulate the report of the Ninth Congress to Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, so as to ensure that it is disseminated as widely as possible, and to conduct appropriate public information activities in this field;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, at its fifty-first session, a report on the measures taken to implement the present resolution;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session the item entitled "Crime prevention and criminal justice".

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21 December 1995

50/146. Strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, particularly its technical cooperation capacity

The General Assembly,

Recognizing the direct relevance of crime prevention and criminal justice to sustained development, stability, security and improved quality of life,

Convinced of the desirability of closer coordination and cooperation among States in combating crime, including drug-related crimes such as terrorist crimes, illicit arms trade and money laundering, and bearing in mind the role that could be played by both the United Nations and regional organizations in this respect,

Bearing in mind the goals of the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, specifically the reduction of criminality, more efficient and effective law enforcement and administration of justice, respect for human rights and promotion of the highest standards of fairness, humanity and professional conduct,

Recognizing the urgent need to increase technical cooperation activities to assist countries, particularly developing countries and countries in transition, with their efforts in translating United Nations policy guidelines into practice, including training and upgrading of national capacities,

Noting the continued increase in the workload of the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch of the Secretariat, as well as the considerable obstacles to the full and effective implementation of its programme activities, resulting from the lack of appropriate institutional capacity,

Convinced that the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch can be effective only if it is provided with resources commensurate to its requirements and adequate to allow it to implement its mandates and to respond in a timely and efficient manner to the increasing requests of Member States for its services,

Recalling its resolution 49/158 of 23 December 1994, in which it requested the Secretary-General, as a matter of urgency, to give effect to General Assembly resolutions 47/91 of 16 December 1992 and 48/103 of 20 December 1993, and to Economic and Social Council resolutions 1992/22 of 30 July 1992, 1993/31 and 1993/34 of 27 July 1993 and 1994/16 of 25 July 1994 by providing the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme with sufficient resources for the full implementation of its mandates, in conformity with the high priority attached to the programme,

Recalling also its resolution 49/159 of 23 December 1994, in which it resolved to take decisions at its fiftieth session on the allocation of adequate resources to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme on the basis of proposals for the modification of the Programme to be submitted by the Secretary-General, taking into account the responsibilities entrusted to the United Nations pursuant to the Naples Political Declaration and Global Action Plan against Organized Transnational Crime,[71]

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[70] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1995, Supplement No. 10* (E/1995/30), chap II.

Recalling further its resolution 46/152 of 18 December 1991 on the creation of an effective United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, in which it approved the statement of principles and programme of action annexed to the resolution, in which it was recommended to the Secretary-General that an upgrading of the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch into a division should be effected as soon as possible,

Concerned about the fact that despite the repeated calls by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council to upgrade the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch to a division, action has not been taken to give effect to the relevant Assembly and Council resolutions,

Noting that the Secretary-General, in section 13 (Crime control) of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997,[72] proposes the strengthening of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme in response to the repeated calls by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council to that effect,

Noting also the additional information provided in the introductory statement by the Director-General of the United Nations Office at Vienna[73] on the proposed programme budget,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the reports of the Secretary-General on the progress made in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 49/158 on strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, particularly its technical cooperation capacity,[74] and on the implementation of resolution 49/159 on the Naples Political Declaration and Global Action Plan against Organized Transnational Crime;[75]

2. *Reaffirms* the importance of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme and the crucial role it has to play in promoting international cooperation in crime prevention and criminal justice, in responding to the needs of the international community in the face of both national and transnational criminality and in assisting Member States in achieving the goals of preventing crime within and among States and improving the response to crime;

3. *Also reaffirms* the priority of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, in accordance with its resolutions 46/152, 47/91, 48/103 and 49/158, and the need for an appropriate share of the existing resources of the United Nations for the Programme;

4. *Welcomes* the proposed strengthening of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, in response to the repeated calls by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council to that effect and, in particular, welcomes the proposal of the Secretary-General to upgrade the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch of the Secretariat into a division, in accordance with Assembly resolutions 46/152, 47/91, 48/103 and 49/158;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme by providing it with the resources necessary for the full implementation of its mandates, including follow-up action to the Naples Political Declaration and Global Action Plan against Organized Transnational Crime and to the Ninth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders;

6. *Reaffirms* the high priority attached to technical cooperation and advisory services as a means for the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme to respond to the needs of the international community in the face of both national and transnational criminality and to assist Member States in achieving the goals of preventing crime within and among States and improving the response to crime, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 46/152 and in line with the recommendations of the Ninth Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders;

7. *Stresses* the importance of continuing to improve the operational activities of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, particularly in developing countries and countries in transition, in order to meet the needs of Member States, at their request, for support in crime prevention and criminal justice;

8. *Calls upon* States and funding agencies to make significant financial contributions for operational activities for crime prevention and criminal justice, and encourages all States to make voluntary contributions for that purpose to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Trust Fund, also taking into account the activities required for the implementation of the Naples Political Declaration and Global Action Plan against Organized Transnational Crime;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to facilitate, as appropriate, the creation of joint initiatives, including bilateral activities, and the joint formulation and implementation of technical assistance projects benefiting developing countries and countries in transition, involving interested donor countries and funding agencies, particularly the United Nations Development Programme and the World Bank, with a view to establishing and maintaining efficient criminal justice systems on a country-by-country basis as an essential component of developmental efforts;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary measures to assist the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, as the principal policy-making body in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, in performing its functions and to ensure the proper coordination of all relevant activities in the field, in particular with the Commission on Human Rights, the Commission on the Status of Women and the Commission on Narcotic Drugs;

11. *Calls upon* the United Nations Development Programme, the World Bank and other international, regional and national funding agencies to support technical cooperation activities devoted to crime prevention and criminal justice at country level and, in pursuance of their man-

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[71] See A/49/748, annex, sect. I.A.

[72] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 6* (A/50/6/Rev.1), vol. I.

[73] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Third Committee*, 12th meeting, and corrigendum.

[74] A/50/432.

[75] A/50/433.

dates, to include such activities in their programmes, emphasizing social development aspects and utilizing the expertise of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme in such activities and cooperating closely on relevant technical assistance projects and advisory missions;

12. *Expresses its appreciation* for the provision of services of two interregional advisers for crime prevention and criminal justice;

13. *Takes note with appreciation* of the contributions of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme to United Nations peace-keeping and special missions, as well as its contributions to the follow-up to those missions, *inter alia*, through advisory services, and encourages the Secretary-General, as a way of strengthening the rule of law, to recommend the inclusion of the re-establishment and reform of criminal justice systems in peace-keeping operations;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to strengthen cooperation between the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch and the United Nations International Drug Control Programme;

15. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary measures to provide improved services, at its future sessions, to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, as the principal policy-making body in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, with a view to ensuring full implementation of the relevant Commission resolutions on the strategic management by the Commission of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme in the context of United Nations rules and regulations;

16. *Reaffirms* the importance of rule 28 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, and urges the Secretary-General to provide the appropriate information to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice;

17. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session.

97th plenary meeting
21 December 1995

50/147. United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 49/156 of 23 December 1994,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolution 1994/21 of 25 July 1994,

Aware of the financial difficulties that the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders continues to face as a result of the fact that many States of the African region are in the category of least developed countries and therefore lack the necessary resources with which to support the Institute,

Conscious of the efforts made thus far by the Institute in fulfilling its mandate through, *inter alia*, the organization of training programmes and regional seminars, as well as the provision of advisory services,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[76]

1. *Commends* the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders for the activities it has undertaken, despite its difficulties in fulfilling its mandate, as reflected in the progress report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute and other institutes;[77]

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Governments and intergovernmental bodies which have supported the Institute in the discharge of its responsibilities;

3. *Appeals* to Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to provide financial and technical support to the Institute to enable it to fulfil its objectives, in particular those concerning training, technical assistance, policy guidance, research and data collection;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the Institute is provided with adequate funds, within the overall appropriation of the programme budget and from extrabudgetary resources, and to submit proposals for any necessary additional funding of the Institute, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 49/156 and its decision 49/480 of 6 April 1995;

5. *Requests* the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme to reconsider its decision with regard to its financial support to the Institute and to continue providing appropriate funds for the institutional strengthening and the implementation of the programme of work of the Institute, taking into account the difficult economic and financial situation faced by many countries in the African region;

6. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure proper follow-up with all concerned on the implementation of the present resolution and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session and to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its fifth session.

97th plenary meeting
21 December 1995

50/148. International action to combat drug abuse and illicit production and trafficking

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 48/12 of 28 October 1993, 48/112 of 20 December 1993 and 49/168 of 23 December 1994,

Profoundly alarmed by the magnitude of the rising trend in drug abuse, illicit production and trafficking in narcotics and psychotropic substances, including synthetic and designer drugs, which threatens the health and well-being of millions of persons, in particular the youth, in all countries of the world,

Gravely concerned that, despite increased efforts by States and relevant international organizations, the illicit demand for, production of and traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, including synthetic and designer drugs, have expanded globally and, therefore, continue to threaten seriously the socio-economic and political systems and the stability, national security and sovereignty of an increasing number of States,

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[76] A/50/375.

[77] E/CN.15/1995/9 and Add.1.

Deeply alarmed by the growing violence and economic power of criminal organizations and terrorist groups that engage in the production of, traffic in and distribution of drugs, arms and precursors and essential chemicals, which at times places them beyond the reach of the law, corrupting institutions, undermining the full exercise of human rights and threatening the stability of many societies in the world,

Deeply alarmed also by the growing links at the transnational level between criminal organizations and terrorist groups engaged in drug trafficking activities and other criminal activities, such as money laundering and illicit traffic of arms and precursors and essential chemicals,

Fully aware that States, the relevant organizations of the United Nations system and multilateral development banks need to accord a higher priority to dealing with this scourge, which undermines development, economic and political stability and democratic institutions, and the combat against which entails increasing economic costs for Governments and the irreparable loss of human lives,

Convinced of the desirability of closer coordination and cooperation among States in combating drug-related crimes, such as terrorism, illicit arms trade and money laundering, and bearing in mind the role that could be played by both the United Nations and regional organizations in this respect,

Reaffirming that a comprehensive framework for international cooperation in drug control is provided by the existing drug control conventions, the Declaration[78] and the Comprehensive Multidisciplinary Outline of Future Activities in Drug Abuse Control,[79] the Political Declaration and Global Programme of Action[80] adopted by the General Assembly at its seventeenth special session devoted to the question of international cooperation against illicit production, supply, demand, trafficking and distribution of narcotic and psychotropic substances, the Declaration adopted by the World Ministerial Summit to Reduce the Demand for Drugs and to Combat the Cocaine Threat,[81] the United Nations System-wide Action Plan on Drug Abuse Control,[82] the Naples Political Declaration and Global Action Plan against Organized Transnational Crime[71] and other relevant international standards, and stressing the need for increased efforts to implement them,

Recognizing the efforts of countries which produce narcotic drugs for scientific, medicinal and therapeutic uses to prevent the diversion of such substances to illicit markets and to maintain production at a level consistent with licit demand in line with the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961,[83]

Acknowledging that there are links, under certain circumstances, between poverty and the increase in the illicit production of and trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and that the promotion of the economic development of countries affected by the illicit drug trade requires appropriate measures, including strengthened international cooperation in support of alternative and sustainable development activities in the affected areas of those countries, which have as their objectives the reduction and elimination of illicit drug production,

Emphasizing the need for an analysis of transit routes used by drug traffickers, which are constantly changing and expanding to include a growing number of countries and regions in all parts of the world,

Underlining the role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs as the principal United Nations policy-making body on drug control issues,

Reaffirming the leadership role of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme as the main focus for concerted international action for drug abuse control, and commending the way in which it has carried out the functions entrusted to it,

Recognizing that the new forms of criminal activities of international drug trafficking organizations call for enhanced international cooperation, as well as a renewal of the international commitment to fight against these menaces, and require the formulation of new strategies, approaches and objectives which, respectful of the sovereignty of States, can deal more effectively with the international operations of those involved in the illegal traffic of drugs and arms, the diversion of precursors and essential chemicals, and money laundering through financial and non-financial operations,

I

RESPECT FOR THE PRINCIPLES ENSHRINED IN THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND INTERNATIONAL LAW IN THE FIGHT AGAINST DRUG ABUSE AND ILLICIT PRODUCTION AND TRAFFICKING

1. *Reaffirms* that the fight against drug abuse and illicit trafficking should not in any way justify violation of the principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and international law, particularly respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States and non-use of force or the threat of force in international relations;

2. *Calls upon* all States to intensify their actions to promote effective cooperation in the efforts to combat drug abuse and illicit trafficking, so as to contribute to a climate conducive to achieving this end, on the basis of the principles of equal rights and mutual respect;

II

INTERNATIONAL ACTION TO COMBAT DRUG ABUSE AND ILLICIT PRODUCTION AND TRAFFICKING

1. *Renews its commitment* to further strengthening international cooperation and substantially increasing efforts against the illicit production, sale, demand, traffic and distribution of narcotics and psychotropic substances, based on the principle of shared responsibility and taking into account experience gained;

2. *Urges* all States to ratify or accede to and implement all the provisions of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961[83] as amended by the 1972 Protocol,[84] the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971[85] and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988;[86]

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[78] See *Report of the International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, Vienna, 17-26 June 1987* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.87.I.18), chap. I, sect. A.

[79] Ibid., sect. B.

[80] Resolution S-17/2, annex.

[81] A/45/262, annex.

[82] See A/49/139-E/1994/57.

[83] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 520, No. 7515.

[84] Ibid., vol. 976, No. 14152.

[85] Ibid., vol. 1019, No. 14956.

[86] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.91.XI.6.

3. *Calls upon* all States to adopt adequate national laws and regulations, to strengthen national judicial systems and to carry out effective drug control activities in cooperation with other States in accordance with those international instruments;

4. *Requests* the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to continue to provide legal assistance to Member States which request it in adjusting their national laws, policies and infrastructures to implement the international drug control conventions, as well as assistance in training personnel responsible for applying the new laws;

5. *Supports* the focus on regional, subregional and national strategies for drug abuse control, particularly the master-plan approach, and urges the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to continue to complement those strategies with effective interregional strategies;

6. *Reaffirms* the danger and threat posed to civil society by drug trafficking and its links to terrorism, transnational crime, money laundering and the arms trade, and encourages Governments to deal with this threat and to cooperate to prevent the channelling of funds to and between those engaged in such activities;

7. *Acknowledges* that there are links between the illicit production of, demand for and traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and the economic and social conditions in the affected countries and that there are differences and diversity in the problems of each country;

8. *Calls upon* the international community to provide increased economic and technical support to Governments which request it for programmes of alternative and sustainable development that have as their objectives the reduction and elimination of illicit drug production and that take fully into account the cultural traditions of peoples;

9. *Notes* the strong support expressed by members of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs for the initiatives of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to establish a dialogue with multilateral development banks so that they might undertake lending and programming activities related to drug control in interested and affected countries, and requests the Executive Director of the Programme to inform the Commission of further progress made in this area;

10. *Stresses* the need for effective government action to prevent the diversion to illicit markets of precursors and essential chemicals, materials and equipment used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances;

11. *Commends* the International Narcotics Control Board for its valuable work in monitoring the production and distribution of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances so as to limit their use to medical and scientific purposes, and urges increased efforts to implement its mandate under article 12 of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances concerning the monitoring of the movement of precursors and essential chemicals;

12. *Calls upon* the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to continue providing assistance to Member States which request it in establishing or strengthening national drug detection laboratories;

13. *Calls upon* States to increase efforts, with international cooperation, to reduce and eliminate illegal crops from which narcotics are obtained, as well as to prevent and reduce the demand for and the consumption of illicit drugs;

14. *Underlines* the need for Governments, with international cooperation, to increase and implement alternative development programmes with the objective of reducing and eliminating the production of illicit drugs, taking into account the economic, social, cultural, political and environmental aspects of the area concerned;

15. *Emphasizes* the need to maintain the capacity of the International Narcotics Control Board, including through the provision of appropriate means by the Secretary-General, within existing resources, and adequate technical support by the United Nations International Drug Control Programme;

16. *Reaffirms* the importance of achieving the objectives of the United Nations Decade against Drug Abuse 1991-2000, under the theme "A global response to a global challenge", by Member States, the United Nations International Drug Control Programme and the United Nations system;

17. *Takes note* of the provisional report presented to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its thirty-eighth session by the Executive Director of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme on the economic and social consequences of drug abuse and illicit trafficking,[87] and invites the Commission to continue considering this issue in the context of the general debate;

18. *Welcomes* resolution 13 (XXXVIII) of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs[88] on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 48/12;

19. *Welcomes with satisfaction* Economic and Social Council resolution 1995/16 of 24 July 1995 on the integration of demand reduction initiatives into a cohesive strategy to combat drug abuse, in which, *inter alia*, the Council requested the Executive Director of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, in consultation with Governments and appropriate agencies and organizations, to define clearly their global strategy for demand reduction and to develop a draft declaration on the guiding principles of demand reduction for submission to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its thirty-ninth session;

20. *Welcomes with satisfaction* resolution 5 (XXXVIII) of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs[88] on strategies for illicit supply reduction, reaffirming the need to apply effective strategies for supply reduction, based on the implementation of plans and programmes for alternative development, which have as their objectives the reduction and elimination of illicit drug production;

21. *Invites* the Economic and Social Council, while considering the issue of international cooperation against the illicit production, sale, demand, traffic and distribution of narcotics and psychotropic substances at its high-level segment of 1996, to pay special attention to the recommendations on the follow-up to General Assembly resolution 48/12, contained in the report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs;[89]

22. *Requests* the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, in its report on illicit traffic in drugs, to include an assessment of worldwide trends in illicit traffic and transit in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, including methods and routes used, and to recom-

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[87] See E/CN.7/1995/3.

[88] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1995, Supplement No. 9 (E/1995/29), chap. XII, sect. A.*

[89] Ibid., chap. VII.

mend ways and means for improving the capacity of States along those routes to deal with all aspects of the drug problem;

III

GLOBAL PROGRAMME OF ACTION

1. *Reaffirms* the importance of the Global Programme of Action[80] as a comprehensive framework for national, regional and international action to combat illicit production of, demand for and trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances;

2. *Calls upon* States to implement the mandates and recommendations of the Global Programme of Action, with a view to translating it into practical action for drug abuse control at the national, regional and international levels;

3. *Urges* all Governments and competent regional organizations to develop a balanced approach within the framework of comprehensive demand reduction activities, giving adequate priority to prevention, treatment, research, social reintegration and training in the context of national strategic plans to combat drug abuse;

4. *Calls upon* the relevant United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies, the international financial institutions and other concerned intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to cooperate with and assist States in their efforts to promote and implement the Global Programme of Action;

5. *Welcomes* the efforts made by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to facilitate reporting by Governments on the implementation of the Global Programme of Action, and encourages them to pursue those efforts so as to increase the number of Governments that respond;

6. *Notes* the efforts being made by the United Nations International Drug Control Programme and other United Nations bodies to obtain reliable data on drug abuse and illicit trafficking, including the development of the International Drug Abuse Assessment System, encourages the Programme, in cooperation with other United Nations bodies, to take further steps to facilitate the efficient collection of data so as to avoid duplication of effort, and encourages also the increased and timely provision of updated information by Member States;

7. *Invites* the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to consider ways of providing assistance to Member States which request it in their efforts to establish appropriate mechanisms to collect and analyse data and to seek voluntary resources for this purpose;

IV

PROPOSAL FOR AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE TO COMBAT THE ILLICIT PRODUCTION, SALE, DEMAND, TRAFFIC AND DISTRIBUTION OF NARCOTIC DRUGS AND PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES AND RELATED ACTIVITIES

1. *Takes note* of the recommendations contained in the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 48/12,[90] including the recommendation regarding the proposal to convene an international conference ten years after the International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, to review progress made by Governments and the United Nations system in combating drug abuse and illicit trafficking;[91]

2. *Takes note also* of resolution 13 (XXXVIII) of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs,[88] in which the Commission decided to keep under consideration the proposal for the convening of an international conference to review progress made by Governments and the United Nations system in combating drug abuse and illicit trafficking;

3. *Takes note further* of Economic and Social Council resolution 1995/40 of 27 July 1995, in which the Council recommended that the General Assembly and the Commission on Narcotic Drugs give priority consideration to the proposal to convene an international conference for the purpose of evaluating the international situation and the status of international cooperation against the illicit production, sale, demand, traffic and distribution of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and related activities;

4. *Takes note* of the proposal to hold a second international conference and requests the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to discuss this issue fully, as a matter of priority, at its thirty-ninth session, and to present its conclusions and suggestions through the Economic and Social Council to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session;

5. *Stresses* that, when discussing this issue, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs should take into account that the proposed conference should focus, with a balanced and integral approach, *inter alia*, on the assessment of existing strategies, as well as on the consideration of new strategies, methods, practical measures and concrete actions to strengthen international cooperation to address the problem of illicit drugs, including illicit demand reduction, illicit supply reduction, the promotion of alternative development programmes, the combat against criminal organizations and illicit arms trade related to drug trafficking, money laundering, the diversion of essential chemicals, the control of stimulants and their precursors and the promotion of law enforcement cooperation, on the basis of the principles and guidelines set forth in the present resolution;

6. *Also stresses* that, when considering the proposal for holding such a conference, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs should take into account international drug control priorities and resources, the financial and other implications of holding such a conference, as well as ways and means to increase the implementation of existing international conventions and other international instruments for cooperation on drug control;

V

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM-WIDE ACTION PLAN ON DRUG ABUSE CONTROL: ACTION BY ORGANIZATIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM

1. *Supports* the United Nations System-wide Action Plan on Drug Abuse Control[92] as a vital tool for the coordination and enhancement of drug abuse control activities within the United Nations system, and requests that it be updated and reviewed on a biennial basis with a view to continuing efforts to improve its presentation and usefulness as a strategic tool of the United Nations for the drug problem;

2. *Reaffirms* the role of the Executive Director of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme in coordinating and providing effective leadership for all United Nations drug control activities so as to increase

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[90] E/CN.7/1995/14.

[91] Ibid., para. 50.

cost-effectiveness and ensure coherence of action within the Programme as well as coordination, complementarity and non-duplication of such activities throughout the United Nations system;

3. *Endorses* the agreed conclusions adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its coordination segment of 1994[92] regarding coordination by the United Nations International Drug Control Programme of drug control–related policies and activities of the United Nations system, including international financial institutions;

4. *Urges* the governing bodies of the United Nations organizations associated with the United Nations System-wide Action Plan on Drug Abuse Control to help ensure effective follow-up by including drug control in their agendas with a view to assessing the activities undertaken in accordance with the Plan and examining how the drug problem is addressed in relevant programmes;

5. *Invites* Member States to inform the Economic and Social Council at its high-level segment of 1996 on progress in international cooperation, especially on specific national efforts to engage the United Nations system and the multilateral development banks in addressing the drug problem;

VI

UNITED NATIONS INTERNATIONAL DRUG CONTROL PROGRAMME

1. *Welcomes* the efforts of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to implement its mandates within the framework of the international drug control treaties, the Comprehensive Multidisciplinary Outline of Future Activities in Drug Abuse Control, the Global Programme of Action and relevant consensus documents;

2. *Notes with concern* the decline of available resources for the Fund of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme;

3. *Urges* all Governments to provide the fullest possible financial and political support to the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, in particular by increasing voluntary contributions to the Programme, to enable it to continue, expand and strengthen its operational and technical cooperation activities;

4. *Invites* Governments and the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to consider ways and means of improving the coordination of United Nations drug control–related activities;

5. *Welcomes* the work of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its thirty-eighth session on the programme budget of the Fund of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, in accordance with the mandate contained in section XVI, paragraph 2, of General Assembly resolution 46/185 C of 20 December 1991;

6. *Notes with appreciation* the efforts made by the Executive Director of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to comply with the approved format and methodology of the programme budget of the Fund, in accordance with relevant resolutions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the General Assembly and the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, and encourages the Executive Director to continue his efforts to improve the presentation and transparency of the budget;

7. *Stresses* the importance of the meetings of heads of national law enforcement agencies, and encourages them to consider ways to improve their functioning and to strengthen their impact so as to enhance cooperation in the fight against drugs at the regional level;

VII

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General submitted under the item entitled "International drug control";[93]

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General, taking into account the promotion of integrated reporting:

(*a*) To submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session an updated report on the status of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances;

(*b*) To include, in his annual report on the implementation of the Global Programme of Action, recommendations on ways and means to improve implementation and provision of information by Member States.

97th plenary meeting
21 December 1995

50/149. Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 49/174 of 23 December 1994,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General[94] and the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,[95]

Bearing in mind the fact that most of the affected countries are least developed countries,

Convinced of the necessity of strengthening the capacity within the United Nations system for the implementation and overall coordination of relief programmes for refugees, returnees and displaced persons,

Welcoming the prospects for voluntary repatriation and durable solutions to the refugee problems throughout Africa,

Recalling its resolution 49/7 of 25 October 1994, in which it endorsed the convening of a regional conference for assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in the Great Lakes region,

Taking into account resolution CM/Res.1588 (LXII) on refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa, adopted by the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity at its sixty-second ordinary session, held at Addis Ababa from 21 to 23 June 1995,[96]

Recognizing the need for States to create conditions conducive to the prevention of flows of refugees and displaced persons and to voluntary repatriation,

Bearing in mind that the majority of refugees and displaced persons are women and children,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General[94] and the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees;[95]

2. *Notes with concern* the effects of political instabil-

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[92] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/49/3/Rev.1), chap. III, sect. B.

[93] A/50/460 and A/50/461.

[94] A/50/413.

[95] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 12* (A/50/12).

[96] See A/50/647, annex I.

ity, internal strife, human rights violations, foreign intervention, poverty and natural disasters, such as drought, in increasing the number of refugees and displaced persons in some countries of Africa;

3. *Expresses deep concern* at the serious and far-reaching consequences of the presence of large numbers of refugees and displaced persons in the receiving countries and the implications for their security, their long-term socio-economic development and the environment;

4. *Expresses its appreciation and strong support* for those African Governments and local populations which, in spite of the general deterioration of socio-economic and environmental conditions, as well as over-stretched national resources, continue to accept the additional burdens imposed by increasing numbers of refugees and displaced persons, in compliance with the relevant principles of asylum;

5. *Commends* the Governments concerned for their sacrifices, for providing assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and for their efforts to promote voluntary repatriation and other measures taken to find appropriate and lasting solutions;

6. *Expresses its gratitude* to the international community for the humanitarian assistance it has continued to render to refugees and displaced persons and to the countries of asylum, and calls upon it to continue to provide assistance to the millions of refugees and displaced persons in Africa;

7. *Expresses its concern* regarding instances, in some parts of Africa, where the fundamental principle of asylum is jeopardized as a result of unlawful expulsion, refoulement, or other threats to life, physical security, dignity and well-being;

8. *Welcomes* the strengthening of cooperation, at all levels, between the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the Organization of African Unity, and urges both organizations, with relevant subregional bodies, United Nations and non-governmental organizations, the international community and the Governments concerned, to increase their efforts to address the root causes, work out strategies and find durable solutions to the problems of displacement in Africa;

9. *Also welcomes* the initiatives of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to implement General Assembly resolution 49/7, and endorses the Plan of Action adopted by the Regional Conference on Assistance to Refugees, Returnees and Displaced Persons in the Great Lakes Region, held at Bujumbura from 15 to 17 February 1995, as a framework for solution-oriented approaches to the humanitarian problems in the Great Lakes region;

10. *Calls upon* the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to intensify its protection activities by, *inter alia*, supporting the efforts of African Governments through appropriate training of relevant officers and other capacity-building activities, disseminating information about refugee instruments and principles and providing financial, technical and advisory services to accelerate the enactment or amendment and implementation of legislation relating to refugees;

11. *Expresses its appreciation* for the efforts of Governments and for the important work being done by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, United Nations organizations, the International Organization for Migration, non-governmental organizations and other cooperating bodies on the implementation of voluntary repatriation of refugees in Africa, and calls upon the Office of the High Commissioner, in conjunction with the Organization of African Unity and Governments concerned, subregional groupings and other interested parties, actively to continue to seek sustainable solutions to the refugee problem in Africa, in particular through facilitating voluntary return in a dignified and orderly manner;

12. *Appeals* to Governments, United Nations and non-governmental organizations and the international community to create conditions that can facilitate the voluntary return and the early rehabilitation and reintegration of refugees;

13. *Commends* the Governments of the Great Lakes region and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on their initiatives to promote repatriation within the framework of tripartite agreements on voluntary repatriation of refugees in the region;

14. *Encourages* the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to continue to cooperate with the office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms in emergency humanitarian situations in Africa;

15. *Calls upon* the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, in conjunction with host Governments, United Nations and non-governmental organizations and the international community, to undertake an early assessment of the negative impacts of large refugee concentrations on the host communities, with a view to initiating timely and concrete measures to prevent damage and to assist in its repair, especially damage caused by mass refugee influxes to the environment and ecosystems in host countries;

16. *Notes with satisfaction* the voluntary return of millions of refugees to their homelands following the successful repatriation and reintegration operations carried out by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, with the cooperation and collaboration of many countries hosting refugees, and looks forward to other programmes to assist the voluntary repatriation of all refugees in Africa;

17. *Expresses its concern* about the long stay of refugees in certain African countries, and calls upon the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to keep under review her programmes in those countries, taking into account the increasing requirements there;

18. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the specialized agencies, the International Committee of the Red Cross, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, donor countries and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations for their assistance in mitigating the plight of the large number of refugees, returnees and displaced persons;

19. *Expresses the hope* that additional resources will be made available for general refugee programmes to keep pace with refugee needs;

20. *Calls upon* Governments, United Nations organizations, non-governmental organizations and the international community as a whole to strengthen the emergency response capacity of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on the basis of the experience of the emergency in Rwanda, and to continue providing needed resources and operational support to Rwandese refugees and the host countries until a permanent solution can be implemented;

21. *Calls upon* the international donor community to provide material and financial assistance for the implementation of programmes intended for the rehabilitation of the environment and infrastructure in areas affected by refugees in countries of asylum;

22. *Calls upon* Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to continue to provide the necessary support and financial assistance to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to enhance her capacities and abilities to implement emergency operations, care and maintenance activities and repatriation and reintegration programmes for the benefit of refugees, returnees and, as appropriate, internally displaced persons;

23. *Appeals* to Member States and international and non-governmental organizations to provide adequate financial, material and technical assistance for relief and rehabilitation programmes for the large number of refugees, voluntary returnees and displaced persons and victims of natural disasters and to the affected countries;

24. *Requests* all Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to pay particular attention to meeting the special needs of refugee women and children;

25. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the Department of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat, United Nations humanitarian organizations, the International Committee of the Red Cross, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, regional and international financial institutions, the International Organization for Migration and non-governmental organizations to increase the capacity for coordination and delivery of humanitarian emergency assistance and disaster relief in general, with States and others concerned in respect of asylum, relief, repatriation, rehabilitation and resettlement of refugees, returnees and displaced persons, including those refugees in urban areas;

26. *Requests* the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to review her general programmes in Africa to take account of the increasing requirements in that region and with a view to continuing her efforts and expanding her activities in close collaboration with the Organization of African Unity, regional organizations and governmental and non-governmental organizations in Africa, in order to consolidate aid and increase essential services to refugees, returnees and displaced persons;

27. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive and consolidated report on the situation of refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session, under the item entitled "Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions", and an oral report to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1996.

97th plenary meeting
21 December 1995

50/150. Assistance to unaccompanied refugee minors

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 49/172 of 23 December 1994,

Aware that the majority of refugees are children and women,

Bearing in mind that unaccompanied refugee minors are among the most vulnerable refugees and require special assistance and care,

Mindful of the fact that the ultimate solution to the plight of those unaccompanied minors is their return to and reunification with their families,

Noting that the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees has developed revised Guidelines on Refugee Children, issued in May 1994,

Noting also the efforts of the High Commissioner to ensure the protection of and assistance to refugees, including children and unaccompanied minors, and that further efforts need to be exerted to this effect,

Recalling the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child[50] and the 1951 Convention[97] and the 1967 Protocol[98] relating to the Status of Refugees,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[99]

2. *Expresses its deep concern* at the plight of unaccompanied refugee minors, and emphasizes the urgent need for their early identification and for timely, detailed and accurate information on their number and whereabouts;

3. *Calls upon* all Governments, the Secretary-General, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, all United Nations organizations, other international organizations and non-governmental organizations concerned to exert the maximum effort to assist and protect refugee minors and to expedite the return to and reunification with their families of unaccompanied refugee minors;

4. *Urges* the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, all United Nations organizations, other international organizations and non-governmental organizations concerned to take appropriate steps to mobilize resources commensurate to the needs and interests of the unaccompanied refugee minors and for their reunification with their families;

5. *Condemns* all acts of exploitation of unaccompanied refugee minors, including their use as soldiers or human shields in armed conflict and their recruitment in military forces, and any other acts that endanger their safety and personal security;

6. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General, the High Commissioner, the Department of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat, the United Nations Children's Fund and other United Nations organizations and international organizations to mobilize adequate assistance to unaccompanied minors in the areas of relief, education, health and psychological rehabilitation;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session on the implementation of the present resolution.

97th plenary meeting
21 December 1995

50/151. Comprehensive consideration and review of the problems of refugees, returnees, displaced persons and related migratory movements

The General Assembly,

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[97] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 189, No. 2545.

[98] Ibid., vol. 606, No. 8791.

[99] A/50/555.

Noting the 1951 Convention[97] and the 1967 Protocol[98] relating to the Status of Refugees,

Recalling its resolutions 48/113 of 20 December 1993 and 49/173 of 23 December 1994,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General[100] and the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,[95]

Reaffirming the need for the international community to consider comprehensive approaches for the coordination of action with regard to refugees, returnees, displaced persons and related migratory movements,

Considering the magnitude of existing and potential refugee and related migratory movements in the countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States and relevant neighbouring States,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General, as well as the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, in particular paragraph 30 of the addendum to the latter report;[101]

2. *Calls upon* the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, in consultation with States concerned and in coordination with relevant intergovernmental, regional and non-governmental organizations, to continue to consider and develop comprehensive regional approaches to the problems of refugees and displaced persons;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to the High Commissioner for her efforts to promote and develop a transparent preparatory process for a regional conference to address the problems of refugees, displaced persons and other forms of involuntary displacement and returnees in the countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States and relevant neighbouring States;

4. *Welcomes* the establishment of a common secretariat for the preparation of the conference, comprising the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the International Organization for Migration and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and its Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights;

5. *Requests* the High Commissioner, in close cooperation with States and intergovernmental organizations concerned, to convene the conference in 1996;

6. *Expresses its appreciation* to United Nations bodies and agencies and other international organizations and institutions for their valuable contribution to the preparatory process leading to the conference;

7. *Urges* all States concerned and appropriate intergovernmental, regional and non-governmental organizations to support that process;

8. *Appeals* to all States and regional and intergovernmental organizations to provide the necessary support and resources needed by the secretariat for the preparation and holding of the conference;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session on the implementation of the present resolution.

97th plenary meeting
21 December 1995

50/152. Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on the activities of her Office[95] and the report of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the High Commissioner on the work of its forty-sixth session,[101]

Recalling its resolution 49/169 of 23 December 1994,

Reaffirming the importance of the 1951 Convention[97] and the 1967 Protocol[98] relating to the Status of Refugees as the cornerstone of the international system for the protection of refugees, and noting with satisfaction that one hundred and thirty States are now parties to one or both instruments,

Reaffirming also the purely humanitarian and non-political character of the activities of the Office of the High Commissioner, as well as the crucial importance of the High Commissioner's functions of providing international protection to refugees and seeking solutions to refugee problems,

Commending the High Commissioner and her staff for the competent, courageous and dedicated manner in which they discharge their responsibilities, paying tribute to those staff members who have endangered or lost their lives in the course of their duties, and emphasizing the urgent need for effective measures to ensure the security of staff engaged in humanitarian operations,

Distressed at the continued suffering of refugees, for whom a solution has yet to be found, and noting with deep concern that refugee protection continues to be jeopardized in many situations as a result of denial of admission, unlawful expulsion, refoulement, unjustified detention, other threats to their physical security, dignity and well-being and failure to respect and ensure their fundamental freedoms and human rights,

Welcoming the continuing strong commitment of States to providing protection and assistance to refugees and the valuable support extended by Governments to the High Commissioner in carrying out her humanitarian tasks, and commending those States, particularly the least developed and those hosting millions of refugees over long periods of time, which, despite severe economic, development and environmental challenges of their own, continue to admit large numbers of refugees into their territories,

Recognizing that, in certain regions, misuse by individuals of asylum procedures jeopardizes the institution of asylum and adversely affects the prompt and effective protection of refugees,

Concerned that statelessness, including the inability to establish one's nationality, may result in displacement, and stressing, in this regard, that the prevention and reduction of statelessness and the protection of stateless persons are important also in the prevention of potential refugee situations,

1. *Strongly reaffirms* the fundamental importance and the purely humanitarian and non-political character of the function of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees of providing international protection to refugees and seeking solutions to refugee problems, and the need for States to cooperate fully with the Office in order to facilitate the effective exercise of that function;

2. *Calls upon* all States which have not yet done so to

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[100] A/50/414.

[101] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 12A* (A/50/12/Add.1).

accede to and implement fully the 1951 Convention and the 1967 Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees and relevant regional refugee instruments, as applicable, for the protection of refugees;

3. *Also calls upon* all States to uphold asylum as an indispensable instrument for the protection of refugees, to ensure respect for the principles of refugee protection, including the fundamental principle of non-refoulement, as well as the humane treatment of asylum-seekers and refugees in accordance with internationally recognized human rights and humanitarian norms;

4. *Reaffirms* that everyone, without distinction of any kind, is entitled to the right to seek and enjoy in other countries asylum from persecution;

5. *Reiterates* the importance of ensuring access, for all persons seeking international protection, to fair and efficient procedures for the determination of refugee status or, as appropriate, to other mechanisms to ensure that persons in need of international protection are identified and granted such protection, while not diminishing the protection afforded to refugees under the terms of the 1951 Convention, the 1967 Protocol and relevant regional instruments;

6. *Reaffirms* the continued importance of resettlement as an instrument of protection;

7. *Reiterates* its support for the role of the Office of the High Commissioner in exploring further measures to ensure international protection to all who need it, consistent with fundamental protection principles reflected in international instruments, and looks forward to the informal consultations of the Office of the High Commissioner on the subject;

8. *Calls* for a more concerted response by the international community to the needs of internally displaced persons and, in accordance with its resolution 49/169, reaffirms its support for the High Commissioner's efforts, on the basis of specific requests from the Secretary-General or the competent principal organs of the United Nations and with the consent of the State concerned, and taking into account the complementarities of the mandates and expertise of other relevant organizations, to provide humanitarian assistance and protection to such persons, emphasizing that activities on behalf of internally displaced persons must not undermine the institution of asylum, including the right to seek and enjoy in other countries asylum from persecution;

9. *Reiterates* the relationship between safeguarding human rights and preventing refugee situations, recognizes that the effective promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms, including through institutions that sustain the rule of law, justice and accountability, are essential for States to address some of the causes of refugee movements and for States to fulfil their humanitarian responsibilities in reintegrating returning refugees and, in this connection, calls upon the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, within its mandate and at the request of the Government concerned, to strengthen its support of national efforts at legal and judicial capacity-building, where necessary, in cooperation with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights;

10. *Also reiterates* that development and rehabilitation assistance is essential in addressing some of the causes of refugee situations, as well as in the context of the development of prevention strategies;

11. *Condemns* all forms of ethnic violence and intolerance, which are among the major causes of forced displacements, as well as an impediment to durable solutions to refugee problems, and appeals to States to combat intolerance, racism and xenophobia and to foster empathy and understanding through public statements, appropriate legislation and social policies, especially with regard to the special situation of refugees and asylum-seekers;

12. *Welcomes* the Platform for Action adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women, held at Beijing from 4 to 15 September 1995,[102] particularly the strong commitment made by States in the Platform to refugee women and other displaced women in need of international protection, and calls upon the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to support and promote efforts by States towards the development and implementation of criteria and guidelines on responses to persecution, including persecution through sexual violence or other gender-related persecution, specifically aimed at women for reasons enumerated in the 1951 Convention and 1967 Protocol, by sharing information on States' initiatives to develop such criteria and guidelines and by monitoring to ensure their fair and consistent application by the States concerned;

13. *Reiterates* that, the grant of asylum or refuge being a peaceful and humanitarian act, refugee camps and settlements must maintain their exclusively civilian and humanitarian character and all parties are obliged to abstain from any activity likely to undermine this, condemns all acts which pose a threat to the personal security of refugees and asylum-seekers, and also those that may endanger the safety and stability of States, calls upon States of refuge to take all necessary measures to ensure that the civilian and humanitarian character of refugee camps and settlements is maintained, and further calls upon States of refuge to take effective measures to prevent the infiltration of armed elements, to provide effective physical protection to refugees and asylum-seekers and to afford the Office of the High Commissioner and other appropriate humanitarian organizations prompt and unhindered access to them;

14. *Encourages* the High Commissioner to continue her activities on behalf of stateless persons, as part of her statutory function of providing international protection and of seeking preventive action, as well as her responsibilities under General Assembly resolutions 3274 (XXIV) of 10 December 1974 and 31/36 of 30 November 1976;

15. *Requests* the Office of the High Commissioner, in view of the limited number of States party to these instruments, actively to promote accession to the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons[103] and the 1961 Convention on the reduction of statelessness,[104] as well as to provide relevant technical and advisory services pertaining to the preparation and implementation of nationality legislation to interested States;

16. *Calls upon* States to adopt nationality legislation with a view to reducing statelessness, consistent with the fundamental principles of international law, in particular by preventing arbitrary deprivation of nationality and by eliminating provisions that permit the renunciation of a nationality without the prior possession or acquisition of another nationality, while at the same time recognizing the right of States to establish laws governing the acquisition, renunciation or loss of nationality;

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[102] A/CONF.177/20 and Add.1, chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[103] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 360, No. 5158.

[104] Ibid., vol. 989, No. 14458.

17. *Reaffirms* that voluntary repatriation, when it is feasible, is the ideal solution to refugee problems, and calls upon countries of origin, countries of asylum, the Office of the High Commissioner and the international community as a whole to do everything possible to enable refugees to exercise their right to return home in safety and dignity;

18. *Reiterates* the right of all persons to return to their country, and emphasizes in this regard the prime responsibility of countries of origin for establishing conditions that allow voluntary repatriation of refugees in safety and with dignity and, in recognition of the obligation of all States to accept the return of their nationals, calls upon all States to facilitate the return of their nationals who are not recognized as refugees;

19. *Calls upon* all States to promote conditions conducive to the return of refugees and to support their sustainable reintegration by providing countries of origin with necessary rehabilitation and development assistance in conjunction, as appropriate, with the Office of the High Commissioner and relevant development agencies;

20. *Recalls* Economic and Social Council resolution 1995/56 of 29 July 1995 on the strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations, and welcomes the decision of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to review, in the course of 1996, aspects of that resolution relevant to the work of the Office of the High Commissioner;

21. *Notes with appreciation* the programme policies established by the Executive Committee of the Programme of the High Commissioner, and underscores the importance of their implementation by the Office of the High Commissioner, implementing partners and other relevant organizations in order to ensure the provision of effective protection and humanitarian assistance to refugees;

22. *Reaffirms* the importance of incorporating environmental considerations into the programmes of the Office of the High Commissioner, especially in the least developed and developing countries which have hosted refugees over long periods of time, welcomes efforts by the Office of the High Commissioner to make a more focused contribution to resolving refugee-related environmental problems, and calls upon the High Commissioner to promote and enhance coordination and collaboration with host Governments, donors, relevant United Nations organizations, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and other actors concerned to address refugee-related environmental problems in a more integrated and effective manner;

23. *Recognizes* the importance of the introduction of Russian as an official language of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the High Commissioner in facilitating the work of the High Commissioner and the implementation of the provisions of the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, notably in the countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States;

24. *Calls upon* all Governments and other donors to demonstrate their international solidarity and burden-sharing with countries of asylum through efforts aimed at continuing to alleviate the burden borne by States which have received large numbers of refugees, in particular those with limited resources, and to contribute to the programmes of the Office of the High Commissioner and, taking into account the effect on countries of asylum of the increasing requirements of large refugee populations and the need to widen the donor base and to achieve greater burden-sharing among donors, to assist the High Commissioner in securing additional and timely income from traditional governmental sources, other Governments and the private sector in order to ensure that the needs of refugees, returnees and other displaced persons of concern to the Office of the High Commissioner are met.

97th plenary meeting
21 December 1995

50/153. The rights of the child

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 49/209, 49/210, 49/211 and 49/212 of 23 December 1994,

Recalling also the recommendation in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[3] that measures be taken to achieve, by 1995, universal ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 44/25 of 20 November 1989, and the universal signing of the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children and the Plan of Action for Implementing the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children in the 1990s adopted by the World Summit for Children,[105] as well as their effective implementation,

Recalling further Commission on Human Rights resolutions 1995/78 and 1995/79 of 8 March 1995,[106]

Convinced that the Convention on the Rights of the Child, as a standard-setting accomplishment of the United Nations in the field of human rights, makes a positive contribution to protecting the rights of children and ensuring their well-being,

Seriously concerned about those reservations to the Convention that are contrary to the object and purpose of the Convention or otherwise contrary to international treaty law, and recalling that the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action urges States to withdraw such reservations,

Reaffirming the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, which states that national and international mechanisms and programmes should be strengthened for the defence and protection of children, in particular the girl child, abandoned children, street children, economically and sexually exploited children, including through child pornography, child prostitution or sale of organs, children victims of diseases including acquired immunodeficiency syndrome, refugee and displaced children, children in detention, children in armed conflict and children victims of famine, drought and other emergencies, and also requires measures against female infanticide and harmful child labour,

Reaffirming also that the best interests of the child shall be a primary consideration in all actions concerning children,

Mindful of the important role of the United Nations and of the United Nations Children's Fund in promoting the well-being of children and their development,

Noting with appreciation the important work carried out by the United Nations, in particular the Committee on the

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[105] See A/45/625, annex.

[106] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1995, Supplement No. 3* and corrigenda (E/1995/23 and Corr.1 and 2).

Rights of the Child, the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography and the expert designated by the Secretary-General to undertake the study on the effect of armed conflicts on children,

Recognizing also the valuable work done by relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations for the promotion and protection of the rights of the child,

Reaffirming that the rights of children require special protection and call for continuous improvement of the situation of children all over the world, as well as for their development and education in conditions of peace and security,

Profoundly concerned about the continuing deterioration in the situation of children in many parts of the world as a result of armed conflicts, and convinced that immediate action is called for,

Convinced that children affected by armed conflicts require the special protection of the international community and that there is a need for all States to work towards the alleviation of their plight,

Profoundly concerned also that the situation of children in many parts of the world remains critical as a result of inadequate social and economic conditions, natural disasters, armed conflicts, exploitation, intolerance, unemployment, rural-to-urban migration, illiteracy, hunger and disability, and convinced that urgent and effective national and international action is called for,

Deeply concerned by the persistence of the practice of the use of children for prostitution, sexual abuse and other activities, which may also often constitute exploitation of child labour,

Recognizing the existence of a market which encourages the increase of such criminal practices against children,

Concerned by the exploitation of child labour and by the fact that it prevents a large number of children from an early age, especially in poverty-stricken areas, from receiving basic education and may unduly imperil their health and even their lives,

Alarmed, in particular, by the exploitation of child labour in its most extreme forms, including forced labour, bonded labour and other forms of slavery,

Encouraged by measures taken by Governments to eradicate the exploitation of child labour,

Determined to safeguard children's right to life, and recognizing the duty and responsibility of Governments to investigate all cases of offences against children, including killing and violence, and to punish offenders,

Deeply concerned about the growing number of street children worldwide and the squalid conditions in which these children are often forced to live,

Welcoming the efforts made by some Governments to take effective action to address the question of street children,

Recognizing that legislation *per se* is not enough to prevent violations of human rights and that Governments should implement their laws and complement legislative measures with effective action, *inter alia*, in the fields of law enforcement and in the administration of justice, and in social, educational and public health programmes,

I

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

1. *Welcomes* the unprecedented number of one hundred and eighty-three States which have ratified or acceded to the Convention on the Rights of the Child as a universal commitment to the rights of the child;

2. *Urges* all States which have not yet done so to sign and ratify or accede to the Convention as a matter of priority, with a view to reaching universal adherence by the end of 1995;

3. *Emphasizes* the importance of the full implementation by States parties of the provisions of the Convention;

4. *Urges* States parties to the Convention which have made reservations to review the compatibility of their reservations with article 51 of the Convention and other relevant rules of international law, with the aim of withdrawing them;

5. *Calls upon* States parties to the Convention to ensure that the education of the child shall be carried out in accordance with article 29 of the Convention and that the education be directed, *inter alia*, to the development of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, for the Charter of the United Nations and for different cultures, and to the preparation of the child for responsible life in a free society, in the spirit of understanding, peace, tolerance, equality of the sexes and friendship among peoples, ethnic, national and religious groups and persons of indigenous origin;

6. *Also calls upon* States parties to the Convention, in accordance with their obligation under article 42, to make the principles and provisions of the Convention widely known to adults and children alike;

II

PROTECTION OF CHILDREN AFFECTED BY ARMED CONFLICTS

7. *Calls upon* States fully to respect the dispositions contained in the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949[107] and the Additional Protocols thereto of 1977,[108] as well as those in the Convention on the Rights of the Child, which accord children affected by armed conflicts special protection and treatment;

8. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on concrete measures taken to alleviate the situation of children in armed conflict;[109]

9. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Committee on the Rights of the Child on its eighth session[110] and the recommendations contained therein concerning the situation of children affected by armed conflicts;

10. *Expresses its support* for the work of the expert designated by the Secretary-General to undertake a comprehensive study of the situation of children affected by armed conflicts, with the mandate established by the General Assembly in its resolution 48/157 of 20 December 1993;

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[107] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970-973.

[108] Ibid., vol. 1125, Nos. 17512 and 17513.

[109] A/50/672.

[110] CRC/C/38.

11. *Urgently requests* that appropriate measures be taken by Member States and United Nations agencies, within the scope of their respective mandates, to facilitate the extension of humanitarian assistance and relief and humanitarian access to children in situations of armed conflict and in the immediate aftermath of such conflict;

12. *Invites* the open-ended inter-sessional working group of the Commission on Human Rights on the elaboration of a draft optional protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child related to the involvement of children in armed conflicts to pursue its mandate;

III

INTERNATIONAL MEASURES FOR THE PREVENTION AND ERADICATION OF THE SALE OF CHILDREN, CHILD PROSTITUTION AND CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

13. *Welcomes* the provisional report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography;[111]

14. *Expresses its support* for the work of the Special Rapporteur appointed by the Commission on Human Rights to examine, all over the world, the question of the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography;

15. *Takes note* of the establishment by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1994/9 of 22 July 1994 of an open-ended inter-sessional working group of the Commission on Human Rights responsible for elaborating, as a matter of priority and in close cooperation with the Special Rapporteur and the Committee on the Rights of the Child, guidelines for a possible draft optional protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child related to the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, as well as the basic measures needed for the prevention and eradication of those abnormal practices;

16. *Requests* that all States support efforts in the context of the United Nations system aimed at adopting efficient international measures for the prevention and eradication of all those practices and consider contributing to the drafting of an optional protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child;

17. *Welcomes* the convening of the first world congress against the commercial sexual exploitation of children, to be held at Stockholm from 26 to 31 August 1996;

IV

ELIMINATION OF EXPLOITATION OF CHILD LABOUR

18. *Encourages* Member States which have not yet done so to ratify the conventions of the International Labour Organization relating to the elimination of exploitation of child labour, in particular those concerning the minimum age for employment, the abolition of forced labour and the prohibition of particularly hazardous work for children, and to implement them;

19. *Calls upon* Governments to take legislative, administrative, social and educational measures to ensure the protection of children from economic exploitation, in particular the protection from performing any work that is likely to be hazardous or to interfere with the child's education or to be harmful to the child's health or physical, mental, spiritual, moral or social development;

20. *Urges* Governments to take all necessary measures to eliminate all extreme forms of child labour, such as forced labour, bonded labour and other forms of slavery;

21. *Requests* that measures be taken by Governments, at the national and international levels, within the framework of multisectoral approaches, to end exploitation of child labour in line with the commitments undertaken at the World Summit for Social Development, held at Copenhagen in March 1995,[47] and the Fourth World Conference on Women, held at Beijing in September 1995,[48] and taking into account the results of other relevant United Nations conferences;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the International Labour Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund and other relevant actors, to report on current initiatives and programmes of the United Nations and its affiliated agencies which address the exploitation of child labour and on how to improve cooperation at the national and international levels in this field;

V

THE PLIGHT OF STREET CHILDREN

23. *Expresses grave concern* at the continued growth in the number of cases worldwide and at reports of street children being involved in and affected by serious crime, drug abuse, violence and prostitution;

24. *Urges* Governments to continue actively to seek comprehensive solutions to tackle the problems of street children and to take measures to restore their full participation in society and to provide, *inter alia*, adequate nutrition, shelter, health care and education;

25. *Strongly urges* all Governments to guarantee the respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms, particularly the right to life, and to take urgent measures to prevent the killing of street children and to combat torture and violence against them;

26. *Emphasizes* that strict compliance with the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and other relevant human rights instruments constitutes a significant step towards solving the problems of street children, and recommends that the Committee on the Rights of the Child and other relevant treaty-monitoring bodies give attention to this growing problem when examining reports from States parties;

27. *Calls upon* the international community to support, through effective international cooperation, the efforts of States to improve the situation of street children, and encourages States parties to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, in preparing their reports to the Committee on the Rights of the Child, to bear this problem in mind and to consider requesting technical advice and assistance for initiatives aimed at improving the situation of street children, in accordance with article 45 of the Convention;

VI

28. *Invites* Governments, United Nations bodies and organizations, including the United Nations Children's Fund and relevant mechanisms of the Commission on Human Rights, and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to cooperate to ensure greater awareness and more effective action to solve the problem of children living in exceptionally difficult conditions by, among other measures, initiating and supporting development projects which can have a positive impact on the situation of those children;

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[111] A/50/456.

29. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography to submit an interim report to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session;

30. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the rights of the child to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session, containing information on the status of the Convention on the Rights of the Child; the findings of the expert designated by the Secretary-General to undertake the study on the effect of armed conflicts on children; and the problems of exploitation of child labour, its causes and consequences, in accordance with paragraph 22 above;

31. *Decides* to continue its consideration of this question at its fifty-first session under the item entitled "The rights of the child".

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50/154. The girl child

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women,[61] the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development,[60] the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,[59] the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action of the World Conference on Human Rights,[3] Agenda 21 adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development,[112] the Plan of Action for Implementing the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children in the 1990s of the World Summit for Children,[105] the World Declaration on Education for All and the Framework for Action to Meet Basic Learning Needs[56] adopted at the World Conference on Education for All: Meeting Basic Learning Needs,

Recalling also that discrimination against the girl child and the violation of the rights of the girl child was identified as a critical area of concern in the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women in the achievement of equality, development and peace for women, and that the advancement and empowerment of women throughout their life-cycle must begin with the girl child,

Noting with appreciation that the World Summit for Children sensitized the entire world to the plight of children,

Reaffirming the equal rights of women and men as enshrined in the Preamble to the Charter of the United Nations, and recalling the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[49] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[50]

1. *Urges* all States to eliminate all forms of discrimination against the girl child and to eliminate the violation of the human rights of all children, paying particular attention to the obstacles faced by the girl child;

2. *Also urges* all States, international organizations as well as non-governmental organizations, individually and collectively to set goals and to develop and implement gender-sensitive strategies to address the needs of children, in particular those of girls, in accordance with the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the goals, strategic objectives and actions contained in the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women;

3. *Requests* all States, international organizations as well as non-governmental organizations to increase awareness of the potential of the girl child and to promote the participation of girls and young women, on an equal basis and as partners with boys and young men, in social, economic and political life and in the development of strategies and in the implementation of actions aimed at achieving gender equality, development and peace;

4. *Calls upon* Member States and organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, in particular, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Health Organization, to take into account the rights and the particular needs of the girl child, especially in education, health and nutrition, and to eliminate negative cultural attitudes and practices against the girl child;

5. *Further urges* all States to eliminate all forms of violence against children, in particular the girl child;

6. *Calls upon* States, international organizations as well as non-governmental organizations to help mobilize the necessary financial resources and political support to achieve goals, strategies and actions relating to the survival, development and protection of the girl child in all programmes for children;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the goals and actions relating to the girl child receive full attention in the implementation of the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women through the work of all organizations and bodies of the United Nations system;

8. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, as Chairman of the Administrative Committee on Coordination, to urge all the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system focusing on the advancement of women to make commitments to goals and actions relating to the girl child in the revision and implementation of the system-wide medium-term plan for the advancement of women for the period 1996-2001,[113] as well as in the medium-term plan for the period 1998-2002.

97th plenary meeting
21 December 1995

50/156. United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 40/131 of 13 December 1985 establishing the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations,

Taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1995/32 of 3 March 1995,[38] as endorsed by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1995/32 of 25 July 1995, which authorized the establishment of an open-ended inter-sessional working group of the Commission on Human Rights with the sole purpose of elaborating a draft declaration, considering the draft United Nations declaration on the rights of indigenous peoples annexed to resolution 1994/45 of 26 August 1994 of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities,[114] for consideration and adoption by the General Assembly within the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People,

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[112] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992* (A/CONF.151/26/Rev.1 (Vol. I and Vol. I/Corr.1, Vol. II, Vol. III and Vol. III/Corr.1)) (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

[113] E/1993/43, annex.

Taking note also of the provisions in Commission on Human Rights resolution 1995/32 regarding the participation of organizations of indigenous people in the Working Group,

Emphasizing the importance and special nature of the draft declaration as a standard-setting exercise specifically for indigenous people,

Recognizing the desirability of assisting organizations of indigenous people to participate in the Working Group,

1. *Decides* that the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations should also be used to assist representatives of indigenous communities and organizations to participate in the deliberations of the open-ended intersessional Working Group of the Commission on Human Rights established by the Commission in its resolution 1995/32, as endorsed by the Economic and Social Council on 25 July 1995, as well as in the deliberations of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of Member States and to invite them to consider contributing to the Fund.

97th plenary meeting
21 December 1995

50/157. Programme of activities for the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind that one of the purposes of the United Nations, as set forth in the Charter, is the achievement of international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character and in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion,

Recalling its resolutions 48/163 of 21 December 1993 and 49/214 of 23 December 1994 on the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People, and Commission on Human Rights resolution 1995/28 of 3 March 1995,[2]

Recalling also that the goal of the Decade is to strengthen international cooperation for the solution of problems faced by indigenous people in such areas as human rights, the environment, development, education and health, and that the theme of the Decade is "Indigenous people: partnership in action",

Recognizing further the importance of consultation and cooperation with indigenous people in planning and implementing the programme of activities for the Decade, the need for adequate financial support from the international community, including support from within the United Nations and the specialized agencies, and the need for adequate coordination and communication channels,

Recalling further its invitation to organizations of indigenous people and other non-governmental organizations concerned to consider the contributions they can make to the success of the Decade, with a view to presenting them to the Working Group on Indigenous Populations of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities,

Taking note of Economic and Social Council decision 1992/255 of 20 July 1992, in which the Council requested United Nations bodies and specialized agencies to ensure that all technical assistance financed or provided by them was compatible with international instruments and standards applicable to indigenous people, and encouraged efforts to promote coordination in this field and greater participation of indigenous people in the planning and implementation of projects affecting them,

Mindful of the relevant recommendations of the World Conference on Human Rights, the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, the International Conference on Population and Development, the Fourth World Conference on Women and the World Summit on Social Development, and of the Declaration on the Occasion of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the United Nations,[115]

Recognizing the value and diversity of the cultures and forms of social organization of indigenous people, and convinced that the development of indigenous people within their countries will contribute to the socio-economic, cultural and environmental advancement of all the countries of the world,

1. *Takes note* of the final report of the Secretary-General on a comprehensive programme of action for the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People and the annexes to that report;[116]

2. *Decides* to adopt the programme of activities for the Decade contained in the annex to the present resolution;

3. *Also decides* that the programme of activities for the Decade may be reviewed and updated throughout the Decade and that at the mid-point of the Decade the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly should review the results of the activities to identify obstacles to the achievement of the goals of the Decade and to recommend solutions for overcoming those obstacles;

4. *Affirms* as a major objective of the Decade the adoption by the General Assembly of a declaration on the rights of indigenous people;

5. *Welcomes* the establishment of an open-ended intersessional Working Group of the Commission on Human Rights with the sole purpose of elaborating a draft declaration, considering the draft contained in the annex to resolution 1994/45 of 26 August 1994 of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, entitled "Draft United Nations declaration on the rights of indigenous peoples",[114] for consideration and adoption by the General Assembly within the Decade;

6. *Also welcomes* the decisions of the Economic and Social Council to approve the participation of some organizations of indigenous people in the Working Group, and encourages the continuing cooperation of the Council, the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations and the Centre for Human Rights of the Secretariat in processing further applications as a matter of priority in accordance

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[114] E/CN.4/1995/2-E/CN.4/Sub.2/1994/56, chap. II, sect. A.

[115] See resolution 50/6

[116] A/50/511.

with the relevant resolutions of the Commission on Human Rights and the Council;

7. *Recognizes* among the important objectives of the Decade the consideration of the possible establishment of a permanent forum for indigenous people within the United Nations, as recommended in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights, held from 14 to 25 June 1993,[3] and welcomes the report of the workshop on the possible establishment of a permanent forum for indigenous people held at Copenhagen from 26 to 28 June 1995[117] and the ongoing dialogue on this subject;

8. *Recommends* that the Secretary-General, drawing on the expertise of the Commission on Human Rights as well as the Commission for Sustainable Development and other relevant bodies, undertake a review, in close consultation with Governments and taking into account the views of indigenous people and of the existing mechanisms, procedures and programmes within the United Nations concerning indigenous people, and report to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session;

9. *Also recommends* that the Commission on Human Rights, drawing on the results of the review and the Copenhagen workshop, consider the convening of a second workshop on the possible establishment of a permanent forum for indigenous people with the participation of independent experts as well as representatives of Governments, organizations of indigenous people and other non-governmental organizations concerned and United Nations bodies and specialized agencies;

10. *Recognizes* the importance of strengthening the human and institutional capacity of indigenous people to develop their own solutions to their problems, and, for these purposes, recommends that the United Nations University consider the possibility of sponsoring, in each region, one or more institutions of higher education as centres of excellence and the diffusion of expertise, and invites the Commission on Human Rights to recommend appropriate means of implementation;

11. *Further recommends* that special attention be given to improving the extent and effectiveness of the participation of indigenous people in planning and implementing the activities for the Decade, including through the recruitment, where appropriate, by relevant United Nations bodies and specialized agencies, of staff from among indigenous nationals of Member States, consistent with Article 101 of the Charter of the United Nations and within existing resources and staff levels;

12. *Recommends* that the Secretary-General:

(*a*) Request United Nations representatives in countries where there are indigenous people to promote, through the appropriate channels, greater participation of indigenous people in the planning and implementation of projects affecting them;

(*b*) Ensure coordinated follow-up to the recommendations concerning indigenous people of relevant world conferences, namely the World Conference on Human Rights, the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, the International Conference on Population and Development, the Fourth World Conference on Women and the World Summit for Social Development;

(*c*) Urge relevant United Nations conferences to promote and facilitate, to the extent possible and as appropriate, the effective input of the views of indigenous people;

(*d*) Ensure that information about the programme of activities for the Decade and opportunities for indigenous people to participate in those activities is disseminated in all countries and to the greatest possible extent in indigenous languages, to be financed from within existing budgetary resources;

(*e*) Report on progress made at the national, regional and international levels in accomplishing these objectives to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session;

13. *Requests* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to promote the objectives of the Decade, taking into account the special concerns of indigenous people, in the fulfilment of his functions;

14. *Requests* the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights, in his capacity as Coordinator of the Decade, bearing in mind the contribution that indigenous people have the capacity to make, to establish, within existing resources, a unit within the Centre for Human Rights of the Secretariat, including indigenous persons, to support its activities related to indigenous people, in particular to plan, coordinate and implement activities for the Decade;

15. *Invites* the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights to consider the appointment of a fund-raiser who could develop new sources of funding for the Decade;

16. *Requests* the Administrative Committee on Coordination, through its inter-agency process, to consult and coordinate on the Decade, with a view to assisting the Coordinator of the Decade to fulfil his function, and to report on activities of the United Nations system in relation to the Decade to the General Assembly in each year of the Decade;

17. Invites the United Nations financial and development institutions, operational programmes and specialized agencies, in accordance with the existing procedures of their governing bodies:

(*a*) To give increased priority and resources to improving the conditions of indigenous people, with particular emphasis on the needs of those people in developing countries, including by the preparation of specific programmes of action for the implementation of the goals of the Decade, within their areas of competence;

(*b*) To launch special projects, through appropriate channels and in collaboration with indigenous people, for strengthening their community-level initiatives and to facilitate the exchange of information and expertise among indigenous people and other relevant experts;

(*c*) To designate focal points for coordination with the Centre for Human Rights of activities related to the Decade;

18. *Emphasizes* the important role of international cooperation in promoting the goals and activities of the Decade and the rights, well-being and sustainable development of indigenous people;

19. *Also emphasizes* the importance of action at the national level to the implementation of the goals and activities of the Decade;

20. *Encourages* Governments to support the Decade by:

(*a*) Contributing to the United Nations Trust Fund for the Decade;

(*b*) Preparing relevant programmes, plans and reports in relation to the Decade, in consultation with indigenous people;

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[117] E/CN.4/Sub.2/AC.4/1995/7 and Add.1-3.

(*c*) Seeking means, in consultation with indigenous people, of giving indigenous people greater responsibility for their own affairs and an effective voice in decisions on matters which affect them;

(*d*) Establishing national committees or other mechanisms involving indigenous people to ensure that the objectives and activities of the Decade are planned and implemented on the basis of full partnership with indigenous people;

21. *Also encourages* Governments to consider contributing, as appropriate, to the Fund for the Development of Indigenous Peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean, in support of the achievement of the goals of the Decade;

22. *Appeals* to Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to support the Decade by identifying resources for activities designed to implement the goals of the Decade, in cooperation with indigenous people;

23. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session the item entitled "Programme of activities of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People".

97th plenary meeting
21 December 1995

ANNEX

Programme of activities for the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People

A. OBJECTIVES

1. Taking into account General Assembly resolution 48/163 of 21 December 1993, the main objective of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People is the strengthening of international cooperation for the solution of problems faced by indigenous people in such areas as human rights, the environment, development, health, culture and education.

2. The specialized agencies of the United Nations system and other international and national agencies, as well as communities and private enterprises, should devote special attention to development activities of benefit to indigenous communities.

3. A major objective of the Decade is the education of indigenous and non-indigenous societies concerning the situation, cultures, languages, rights and aspirations of indigenous people. In particular, efforts should be made to cooperate with the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education.

4. An objective of the Decade is the promotion and protection of the rights of indigenous people and their empowerment to make choices which enable them to retain their cultural identity while participating in political, economic and social life, with full respect for their cultural values, languages, traditions and forms of social organization.

5. An objective of the Decade is to further the implementation of the recommendations pertaining to indigenous people of all high-level international conferences, including the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, the World Conference on Human Rights, in particular its recommendation that consideration be given to the establishment of a permanent forum for indigenous people in the United Nations system, the United Nations Conference on Population and Development and the World Summit for Social Development as well as all future high-level meetings.

6. An objective of the Decade is the adoption of the draft United Nations declaration on the rights of indigenous peoples[114] and the further development of international standards as well as national legislation for the protection and promotion of the human rights of indigenous people, including effective means of monitoring and guaranteeing those rights.

7. The objectives of the Decade should be assessed by quantifiable outcomes that will improve the lives of indigenous people and that can be evaluated halfway through the Decade and at its end.

B. ACTIVITIES TO BE UNDERTAKEN BY THE MAJOR ACTORS

1. *United Nations observances*

8. A formal observance each year on the International Day of the World's Indigenous People, in New York, Geneva and at other offices of the United Nations.

9. Official observance of the Decade as part of the Fourth World Conference on Women, the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and other international conferences related to the aims and themes of the Decade.

10. Issuance of a special series of stamps by the United Nations Postal Administration highlighting the goals and themes of the Decade.

2. *Activities of the Coordinator and the Centre for Human Rights*

11. Establish, as a matter of urgency, an adequately staffed and resourced indigenous people's unit.

12. Request Governments to second qualified indigenous people, in consultation with interested national indigenous organizations, to assist in the administration of the Decade.

13. Create a fellowship programme, in collaboration with the Advisory Services of the Centre for Human Rights of the Secretariat and Governments, to assist indigenous people wishing to gain experience in the different branches of the Centre and in other parts of the United Nations system. Such fellowships might be available for indigenous research and other similar activities.

14. Open a roster of indigenous experts in various fields who might be available to assist United Nations agencies, in collaboration with Governments, as appropriate, as partners or consultants.

15. Create an advisory group of persons with relevant knowledge of indigenous issues, acting in their personal capacity, to advise the Coordinator for the Decade and United Nations organizations, at their request. The members of this advisory group could include eminent indigenous persons, governmental representatives, independent experts and officials of the specialized agencies.

16. Consider the need to hold coordination meetings of Governments, organizations of the United Nations system and indigenous and non-governmental organizations, as necessary, to consider, examine and evaluate Decade activities and to develop an integrated, action-oriented strategy to advance the interests of indigenous people. The Economic and Social Council should hold mid-term and end-term reviews of the Decade in accordance with its resolution 1988/63 of 27 July 1988. The Working Group on Indigenous Populations of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities should review international activities undertaken during the Decade and receive information from Governments on the implementation of the goals of the Decade in their respective countries.

17. Compile, on the basis of communications of the focal points in the United Nations system, a regular news-sheet containing information about meetings of interest, major or innovatory projects, new sources of funding, policy developments and other news to be widely distributed.

18. Encourage the development of partnership projects in association with Governments to address specific regional or thematic issues bringing together Governments, indigenous people and appropriate United Nations agencies.

19. Establish an information programme linking the Coordinator of the Decade to focal points of the United Nations system, national committees for the Decade and, through appropriate channels, indigenous networks; also develop a database of indigenous organizations and other relevant information, in cooperation with indigenous people, Governments, academic institutions and other relevant bodies.

20. Organize meetings on relevant themes of concern to indigenous people with indigenous participation.

21. Launch a series of publications on indigenous issues to inform policy makers, opinion-formers, students and other interested people.

22. Develop, in collaboration with Governments, training programmes on human rights for indigenous people, including the preparation of relevant training materials, when possible in indigenous languages.

23. Establish a board of trustees or advisory group, including indigenous people, to assist the Coordinator of the Voluntary Fund for the International Decade.

24. Encourage the development of projects and programmes, in collaboration with Governments and taking into account the views of indigenous people and the appropriate United Nations agencies, for support by the Voluntary Fund for the Decade.

25. Ensure, in coordination with Governments and indigenous organizations, the necessary measures to guarantee financing of the objectives of the Decade.

3. *United Nations public information activities*

26. Produce and disseminate a series of posters on the Decade using designs by indigenous artists.

27. Organize a lecture series at United Nations information centres and campuses linked to the United Nations University, using indigenous speakers.

28. Publish in indigenous languages the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, international human rights conventions and, upon its adoption, the United Nations declaration on the rights of indigenous people, considering the use of audiovisual material for this purpose. Consider also the involvement of indigenous experts and their own information networks in disseminating information about the Decade.

29. Prepare, in collaboration with the Centre for Human Rights, information about indigenous people for distribution to the general public.

4. *Operational activities of the United Nations system*

30. Establish focal points for indigenous issues in all appropriate organizations of the United Nations system.

31. Encourage the governing bodies of specialized agencies of the United Nations system to adopt programmes of action for the Decade in their own fields of competence, in close cooperation with indigenous people.

32. Urge Governments to ensure that the programmes and budgets of relevant intergovernmental organizations give priority and devote sufficient resources to furthering the aims of the Decade, and request that regular reports on the action taken be submitted to the governing body or executive council of each organization.

33. Prepare, publish and disseminate a manual containing practical information for indigenous people on the operations and procedures of United Nations agencies.

34. Develop research on the socio-economic conditions of indigenous people, in collaboration with indigenous organizations and other appropriate partners, with a view to publishing regular reports in order to contribute to the solution of problems faced by indigenous people, taking into account paragraph 6.26 of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, held at Cairo from 5 to 13 September 1994.[118]

35. Encourage Governments to establish appropriate mechanisms and practices to ensure the participation of indigenous people in the design and implementation of national and regional programmes of concern to them.

36. Hold regular inter-agency consultations, in collaboration with Governments and indigenous people, to exchange views and develop strategies on the programme of action for the Decade.

37. Hold consultations with Governments to examine, with national committees and development agencies, possibilities of cooperation in the activities of the Decade.

38. Develop training materials for indigenous people on human rights, including the translation of the main international instruments into different indigenous languages, and give them wide distribution. Consider the possibility of using radio programmes to gain access to indigenous communities not having written languages.

39. Prepare a database on national legislation on matters of particular relevance to indigenous people.

40. Hold consultations of all interested parties on the themes of human rights, the environment, development, health, culture and education, with a view to elaborating programmes in these areas.

5. *Activities of regional organizations*

41. Implement existing and develop new regional programmes of action to promote and support the objectives of the Decade.

42. Hold regional meetings on indigenous issues with existing regional organizations with a view to strengthening coordination, taking advantage of the machinery of the United Nations system and promoting the direct and active participation of indigenous people of different regions in collaboration with Governments. The Working Group on Indigenous Populations could consider the possibility of holding its sessions in conjunction with these meetings.

43. Develop training courses and technical assistance programmes for indigenous people in areas such as project design and management, environment, health and education, and promote the exchange of skills and experiences of indigenous people from different regions.

44. Make funds available at the regional level to activities benefiting indigenous people.

45. Encourage regional organizations to draw up regional instruments for the promotion and protection of indigenous people in the framework of their own structures and promote existing regional instruments.

6. *Activities of Member States*

46. Establish national committees for the Decade or similar mechanisms, including indigenous people, all relevant departments and other interested parties duly convened by Governments, to mobilize public support for the various activities connected with the Decade.

47. Intensify coordination and communication at the national level between relevant ministries, agencies and regional and local authorities by establishing focal points or other mechanisms for coordination and dissemination of information.

48. Use part of the resources of existing programmes and of international assistance for activities of direct benefit to indigenous people and, where possible, provide additional funds for specific activities.

49. Develop, in collaboration with indigenous communities, national plans for the Decade, including main objectives and targets, fixing quantitative outcomes and taking into account the need for resources and possible sources of financing.

50. Provide appropriate resources for indigenous institutions, organizations and communities to develop their own plans and actions according to their own priorities.

51. Adopt measures, in cooperation with indigenous people, to increase knowledge, starting at the elementary-school level and in accordance with the age and development of schoolchildren, concerning the history, traditions, culture and rights of indigenous people, with special emphasis on the education of teachers at all levels, and adopt measures to restore indigenous place names.

52. Consider ratification and implementation of the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention of the International Labour Organization (No. 169) and other international and regional instruments, in close consultation with the indigenous organizations of each country.

53. Recognize the existence, identity and rights of indigenous people through constitutional reforms or the adoption of new laws, when appropriate, to improve their legal status and guarantee their economic, social, cultural, political and civil rights.

54. Implement chapter 26 of Agenda 21,[112] adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, and the relevant provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity,[119] the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights,[3] the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development[118] and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development,[67] as well as the relevant provisions of future high-level conferences.

7. *Activities of organizations of indigenous people*

55. Establish an information network which can be linked to the Coordinator of the Decade and facilitate communications between

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[118] See *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[119] See United Nations Environment Programme, *Convention on Biological Diversity (Environmental Law and Institutions Programme Activity Centre)*, *June 1992*.

the United Nations system, relevant governmental departments and indigenous communities.

56. Indigenous organizations and international indigenous networks should develop information for local communities concerning the goals of the Decade and the activities of the United Nations.

57. Establish and support indigenous schools and university-level institutions and collaborate with the relevant United Nations agencies; participate in the revision of school texts and the contents of programmes of study in order to eliminate discriminatory content and promote the development of indigenous cultures and, where appropriate, in indigenous languages and scripts; develop indigenous curricula for schools and research institutions.

58. Create documentation centres, archives and *in situ* museums concerning indigenous people, their cultures, laws, beliefs and values, with material that could be used to inform and educate non-indigenous people on these matters. Indigenous people should participate on a preferential basis in the administration of these centres.

59. Establish and promote networks of indigenous journalists and launch indigenous periodicals at the regional and international levels.

60. Indigenous people may transmit their views on the programmes concerning their priority rights to Governments, the United Nations and the specialized agencies and regional organizations.

8. *Activities of non-governmental organizations and other interested parties, including education establishments, the media and business*

61. Cooperate with indigenous organizations, communities and people in the planning of activities for the Decade.

62. Non-governmental organizations working with indigenous people should involve indigenous people in their activities.

63. Create radio and television centres in indigenous regions, when appropriate and in accordance with national legislation, to provide information on the problems and proposals of indigenous people and to improve communications between indigenous communities.

64. Promote indigenous cultures, with due respect for intellectual property rights, through the publication of books, the production of compact discs and the organization of various artistic and cultural events which enhance knowledge of and serve to develop indigenous cultures and establish indigenous cultural and documentation centres.

65. Involve different social and cultural groups in the activities planned for the Decade.

50/162. Proposed merger of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women and the United Nations Development Fund for Women

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 48/111 of 20 December 1993 regarding the proposal to merge the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women and the United Nations Development Fund for Women,

Recalling also its resolution 49/160 of 23 December 1994 regarding the proposed merger,

Bearing in mind the report of the Secretary-General of 7 July 1994,[120] submitted pursuant to resolution 48/111,

Bearing in mind also the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions of 7 September 1994,[121] prepared in compliance with resolution 48/111,

Taking into consideration its request to the Secretary-General, in resolution 49/160, that he submit, through the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, an updated report which would contain, *inter alia*, the information requested by the Economic and Social Council in its decision 1993/235 of 27 July 1993 and by the General Assembly in paragraphs 2 and 3 of resolution 48/111, as well as the additional information requested by the Advisory Committee,

Also taking into consideration paragraph 5 of resolution 49/160, in which it requested the Economic and Social Council to re-examine the issue at a resumed session to take place after the Fourth World Conference on Women and before the Third Committee of the General Assembly considered the question of the advancement of women, taking into account the deliberations of the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirty-ninth session, the Fourth World Conference on Women and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions concerning institutional arrangements in the United Nations system for the advancement of women,

Keeping in mind that the Commission on the Status of Women did not give an opinion on this matter, as requested by the General Assembly in resolution 49/160, owing to the lack of the documents requested therein,

Keeping in mind also that the Fourth World Conference on Women did not discuss the proposed merger of the Institute and the Fund, but outlined their mandates separately and distinctly,

Taking note of the opinion expressed in the report of the Joint Inspection Unit, entitled "The advancement of women through and in the programmes of the United Nations system: what happens after the Fourth World Conference on Women?",[122] that the vast majority of women, and the most pressing problems for women, are in the developing world and that therefore at least one of the specific United Nations women's units should also be based there,

1. *Takes note* of the note by the Secretariat[123] prepared pursuant to General Assembly resolution 49/160;

2. *Takes note also* of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[124]

3. *Reaffirms* the view expressed in paragraph 360 of the Platform for Action adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women at Beijing on 15 September 1995[125] that, recognizing the roles of United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies, in particular the special roles of the United Nations Development Fund for Women and the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, in the promotion of the empowerment of women and, therefore, in the implementation of the Platform for Action within their respective mandates, *inter alia*, in research, training and information activities for the advancement of women, as well as technical and financial assistance to incorporate a gender perspective in development efforts, the resources provided by the international community need to be sufficient and should be maintained at an adequate level;

4. *Concurs* with the views expressed in paragraphs 334 and 335 of the Platform for Action concerning the mandates of the Institute and the Fund;

5. *Regrets* that, owing to the absence of sufficient information on the legal, technical and administrative implications of the proposed merger, it is currently unable to decide on the proposed merger;

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[120] A/49/217-E/1994/103.

[121] A/49/365-E/1994/119.

[122] See A/50/509, para. 225.

[123] A/50/747-E/1995/126.

[124] A/50/785-E/1995/128.

[125] A/CONF.177/20, chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

6. *Urges* the Secretary-General to implement the mandates set out in its resolution 49/163 of 23 December 1994;

7. *Recommends* that the interaction between the Commission on the Status of Women, the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, the Division for the Advancement of Women of the Secretariat and the United Nations Development Fund for Women should be reviewed and rationalized within the context of ongoing efforts to revitalize the Economic and Social Council in pursuance of a stronger, more unified programme for the advancement of women as requested in paragraph 2 of resolution 48/111;

8. *Also recommends* that any proposal dealing with the institutional structure and the mandates of the different United Nations bodies dealing with the advancement of women must be considered part of the general restructuring exercise of the United Nations.

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50/163. International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 48/105 of 20 December 1993,

Taking note of Economic and Social Council resolution 1995/45 of 27 July 1995,

Taking note also of the report of the Board of Trustees of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women on its fifteenth session,[126]

Taking note further of the analysis done by the Board of Trustees and its recommendation that the Institute should also report to the Second Committee of the General Assembly under relevant agenda items, in order to improve the coordination and synergy of its programmes with other economic and social issues,

Reaffirming the original mandate and distinct capacity of the Institute to carry out research and training for the advancement of women, as stipulated in General Assembly resolution 3520 (XXX) of 15 December 1975,

Stressing the need for independent research to ensure that policy-making and project implementation address issues and emerging areas of concern to women, and the role of the activities of the Institute therein,

Noting the recommendation of the Board of Trustees that the Institute should implement the recommendations emanating from the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, the International Conference on Population and Development, the World Summit for Social Development and the Fourth World Conference on Women, especially those related to research and training needs for the advancement of women, and coordinate effectively with United Nations bodies and organizations to avoid duplication,

Convinced that sustainable development cannot be achieved without the full participation of women,

Taking into account paragraph 334 of the Platform for Action adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women at Beijing on 15 September 1995,[125]

1. *Expresses its satisfaction* with the report of the Board of Trustees of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, and commends the Institute for its efforts to focus on problems that constitute barriers to improving the status of women and their full participation in the sustainable development process;

2. *Emphasizes* the unique function of the Institute as the only entity within the United Nations system devoted exclusively to research and training for the integration of women in development, and stresses the importance of making its research findings available for policy purposes and for operational activities;

3. *Commends* the efforts of the Institute to address all levels of poverty that hamper so dramatically the advancement of women, through the coordination of research and training activities in the areas of empowerment of women; statistics and indicators in gender issues; communications; women, natural resources and sustainable development; water, sanitation and waste management; renewable sources of energy; and issues related to different population groups, such as older and displaced women, refugee and migrant women and women in rural areas;

4. *Encourages* the Institute to further develop active and close cooperation with the specialized agencies and related organizations of the United Nations system and with other institutions, such as universities and research institutions, so as to promote programmes that contribute to the advancement of women;

5. *Reiterates* the importance of maintaining the level of resources devoted to independent research and related training activities which are crucial for the situation of women;

6. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Governments and organizations which have contributed to and supported the activities of the Institute;

7. *Invites* Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to contribute, through voluntary contributions and pledges, to the United Nations Trust Fund for the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, thus enabling the Institute to continue to respond effectively to its mandate;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session a report on the activities of the Institute, especially on those activities related to research and training needs for the advancement of women as contained in the follow-up process of the plans and platforms emanating from the major United Nations conferences, under the item entitled "Advancement of women".

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50/164. Improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat

The General Assembly,

Recalling Articles 1 and 101 of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling also Article 8 of the Charter, which provides that the United Nations shall place no restrictions on the eligibility of men and women to participate in any capacity and under conditions of equality in its principal and subsidiary organs,

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[126] E/1995/80.

Recalling further the relevant paragraphs of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women[127] and the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women on 15 September 1995,[128]

Concerned at the serious and continuing underrepresentation of women in the Secretariat, particularly at the higher decision-making levels,

Convinced that the improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat could significantly enhance the effectiveness and credibility of the United Nations, including its leadership role in advancing the status of women worldwide and in promoting the full participation of women in all aspects of decision-making,

Disappointed that the objective set in its resolutions 45/125 of 14 December 1990 and 45/239 C of 21 December 1990 of a 35 per cent overall participation rate of women in posts subject to geographical distribution by 1995 has not been met,

Disappointed also that the goal set in its resolution 45/239 C of a 25 per cent participation rate of women in posts at the D-1 level and above by 1995 has not been met and that their level of representation remains unacceptably low,

Recalling its resolution 49/167 of 23 December 1994, in which it urged the Secretary-General to implement fully the strategic plan of action for the improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat (1995-2000),[129]

Noting the efforts made by the Secretary-General and the Office of Human Resources Management of the Secretariat to integrate the objectives set by the General Assembly for the improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat into the overall strategy for the management of the Organization's human resources, and noting also that such a comprehensive approach would be conducive to enhancing the status of women in the Secretariat,

Recognizing the importance of providing equal employment opportunities for all staff,

Aware that a comprehensive policy aimed at preventing and dealing with sexual harassment should be an integral part of personnel policy,

Welcoming the statement of the Administrative Committee on Coordination on the status of women in the secretariats of the United Nations system,[130] in which the members of the Committee reaffirmed their strong commitment to ensuring that the advancement of women was a priority within the organizations of the common system and to taking measures to improve the status of women in their respective secretariats,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General;[131]

2. *Notes* the efforts to date of the Secretary-General to implement the strategic plan of action for the improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat (1995-2000), and reaffirms that his continued visible commitment is essential to the achievement of the goals and objectives of the strategic plan;

3. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to ensure full and urgent implementation of the strategic plan in order to achieve the goal contained in the Platform for Action adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women for overall gender equality, particularly at the Professional level and above, by the year 2000;

4. *Also calls upon* the Secretary-General to fulfil his target, reaffirmed by the Fourth World Conference on Women, of having women hold 50 per cent of managerial and decision-making positions by the year 2000;

5. *Welcomes* the Secretary-General's initiatives to date to ensure implementation of the strategic plan, including the incorporation of measures into the performance appraisal system to hold managers responsible and accountable and the inclusion in training programmes of components designed to sensitize managers to gender issues;

6. *Urges* the Secretary-General to continue his work on improving the work practices and environment within the United Nations system with a view to increasing flexibility so as to remove direct or indirect discrimination, including against staff members with family responsibilities, through, *inter alia*, consideration of such issues as spouse employment, job-sharing, flexible working hours, child-care arrangements and career-break schemes, and to improve access for all staff to training and career development;

7. *Notes* the examination that has begun of the effectiveness of the Organization's policies and procedures, established in 1992, to deal with sexual harassment in the workplace, and urges the Secretary-General to ensure that the examination leads to a comprehensive and effective policy, including grievance mechanisms, for the prevention and redress of sexual harassment in the Secretariat;

8. *Also urges* the Secretary-General to increase the number of women employed in the Secretariat from developing countries, particularly those that are unrepresented or underrepresented, and from other countries that have a low representation of women, including countries in transition;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that equal employment opportunities exist for all staff;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to enable, from within existing resources, the Focal Point for Women within the Secretariat effectively to monitor and facilitate progress in the implementation of the strategic plan;

11. *Strongly encourages* Member States to support the strategic plan and the efforts of the United Nations and the specialized agencies to increase the percentage of women in Professional posts, especially at the D-1 level and above, by identifying and submitting more women candidates, encouraging women to apply for vacant posts and creating national rosters of women candidates to be shared with the Secretariat, specialized agencies and regional commissions;

12. *Further requests* the Secretary-General, in accordance with the relevant rules on the delivery timetable for documentation, to ensure that a progress report on the status of women in the Secretariat is submitted to the Commission on the Status of Women at its fortieth session and to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session, taking into account the promotion of integrated reporting.

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[127] *Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect. A.

[128] A/CONF.177/20, chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[129] A/49/587 and Corr.1, sect. IV.

[130] See A/50/691, annex.

[131] A/50/691.

50/165. Improvement of the situation of women in rural areas

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 34/14 of 9 November 1979, in which it endorsed the Declaration of Principles and the Programme of Action as adopted by the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development,[132] and its resolutions 44/78 of 8 December 1989 and 48/109 of 20 December 1993,

Recalling also the importance attached to the problems of rural women by the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women[127] and by the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women on 15 September 1995,[128]

Recalling further its resolution 47/174 of 22 December 1992, in which it welcomed the adoption of the Geneva Declaration for Rural Women by the Summit on the Economic Advancement of Rural Women, held at Geneva in February 1992,[133] and urged all States to work for the achievement of the goals endorsed in the Declaration,

Welcoming the growing awareness of Governments of the need for strategies and programmes to improve the situation of women in rural areas,

Noting with deep concern that the economic and financial crises in many developing countries have severely affected the socio-economic status of women, especially in rural areas, and the continuing rise in the number of rural women living in poverty,

Recognizing the urgent need to take appropriate measures aimed at further improving the situation of women in rural areas,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[134]

2. *Invites* Member States, in their efforts to implement the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, the World Conference on Human Rights, the International Conference on Population and Development, the World Summit for Social Development and the Fourth World Conference on Women, bearing in mind also the Geneva Declaration for Rural Women, to attach greater importance to the improvement of the situation of rural women in their national development strategies, paying special attention to both their practical and their strategic needs, by, *inter alia*:

(*a*) Integrating the concerns of rural women into national development policies and programmes, in particular by placing a higher priority on budgetary allocation related to the interests of rural women;

(*b*) Strengthening national machineries and establishing institutional linkages among governmental bodies in various sectors and non-governmental organizations that are concerned with rural development;

(*c*) Increasing the participation of rural women in the decision-making process;

(*d*) Undertaking necessary measures to give rural women full and equal access to productive resources, including the right to inheritance and to ownership of land and other property, credit/capital, natural resources, appropriate technologies, markets and information, and meeting their basic requirements in water and sanitation;

(*e*) Investing in the human resources of rural women, particularly through health and literacy programmes and social support measures;

3. *Requests* the international community and relevant United Nations organizations and bodies to promote the realization of the programmes and projects aimed at the improvement of the situation of rural women within the overall framework of integrated follow-up to recent global conferences;

4. *Invites* the World Food Summit to be convened by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in 1996 to give due consideration to the issue of improving the situation of rural women, taking into account their role in food production and food security, and the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) to give due consideration to the gender aspects of rural-urban migration and its impact on the situation of rural women, in formulating relevant strategies and actions;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare, in consultation with Member States and relevant United Nations organizations, a report on the implementation of the present resolution and to submit it, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session, taking into account possible measures to improve the reporting procedure.

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50/166. The role of the United Nations Development Fund for Women in eliminating violence against women

The General Assembly,

Welcoming the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action,[128] which called for the prevention and elimination of all forms of violence against women and girls and the promotion and protection of all human rights of women and girls, stressing that acts or threats of violence, whether occurring within the home or in the community or perpetrated or condoned by the State, instilled fear and insecurity in women's lives and were obstacles to the achievement of equality, development and peace,

Recalling that the Platform for Action called for action to eradicate violence against the girl child, recognizing that girls were more vulnerable to all kinds of violence,

Recalling also that the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action[3] affirmed that gender-based violence and all forms of sexual harassment and exploitation, including those resulting from cultural prejudice and international trafficking, were incompatible with the dignity and worth of the human person and must be eliminated,

Recalling further its resolution 48/104 of 20 December 1993, proclaiming the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women, in which it recognized that violence against women violated and impaired or nullified the enjoyment by women of human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Recognizing the importance of the effective implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[49]

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[132] See Report of the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development, Rome, 12-20 July 1979 (WCARRD/REP), transmitted to the General Assembly by a note by the Secretary-General (A/34/485).

[133] A/47/308-E/1992/97, annex.

[134] A/47/308-E/1992/97, annex.

Emphasizing the need for full implementation by Governments and community organizations, non-governmental organizations, educational institutions, and the public and private sectors, as appropriate, of the measures set out in the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action,

Urging that Governments allocate adequate resources within their budgets and mobilize community resources for activities related to the elimination of violence against women, including resources for the implementation of plans of action at all appropriate levels, as called for in paragraph 124 (*p*) of the Platform for Action,

Taking note of Economic and Social Council resolution 1995/27 of 24 July 1995, in which the Council approved resolution 8 of the Ninth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders concerning the elimination of violence against women and urged the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to continue to consider the elimination of violence against women within its priority themes and within the training and technical assistance efforts of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme,

Recognizing the importance of cooperation with the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on violence against women,

Reaffirming the importance of developing a holistic and multidisciplinary approach to the task of promoting families, communities and States that are free from violence against women, and affirming the need for coordinated and strengthened international support for this approach,

Recalling its resolution 48/107 of 20 December 1993, in which it reaffirmed the catalytic role that the United Nations Development Fund for Women has played in facilitating the efforts of Governments and non-governmental organizations at the national and community levels to support innovative activities that directly benefit and empower women and in increasing opportunities and options for women in developing countries to participate more effectively in the development of their countries, in line with national priorities,

1. *Reiterates its appreciation* for the advocacy initiatives of the United Nations Development Fund for Women, including its contribution to and participation in the follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, in particular with respect to efforts to combat violence against women, commends the Fund for its support of catalytic and innovative projects that strengthen the national capacity to improve the situation of women, and takes note with appreciation of the Platform for Action which affirmed that the Fund had the mandate to increase options and opportunities for women's economic and social development in developing countries by providing technical and financial assistance to incorporate the women's dimension into development at all levels and that it should review and strengthen, as appropriate, its work programme in the light of the Platform for Action, focusing on women's political and economic empowerment;

2. *Requests* the Fund, as one of the operational bodies of the United Nations, to take into account the need to strengthen its activities to eliminate violence against women as part of system-wide efforts of the United Nations towards this goal, in accordance with the measures set out in the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action and the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women and focusing on activities, particularly at the national and community levels, and calls upon Member States to promote cooperation with the Fund to these ends;

3. *Also requests* the Fund, in undertaking any relevant activities, to cooperate closely with the relevant United Nations organs and bodies, in particular the Division for the Advancement of Women of the Secretariat, the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on violence against women, the Centre for Human Rights of the Secretariat, the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch of the Secretariat and the United Nations Children's Fund, in order to ensure that its activities form part of the system-wide efforts of the United Nations to eliminate violence against women;

4. *Further requests* the Fund to include in its regular reports information regarding its activities to eliminate violence against women and girls and to provide such information to the Commission on the Status of Women and the Commission on Human Rights;

5. *Requests* the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, in consultation with the Secretary-General, as well as with the relevant United Nations organs and bodies, in particular the Division for the Advancement of Women, the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on violence against women, the Centre for Human Rights and the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch, to consider the possibility of establishing a trust fund, within the existing mandate, structure and management of the United Nations Development Fund for Women, in support of national, regional and international actions, including those taken by Governments and non-governmental organizations, to eliminate violence against women;

6. *Requests* the Fund to include in its regular reports information on the implementation of the present resolution and also to provide such information to the Commission on the Status of Women and the Commission on Human Rights.

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50/167. Traffic in women and girls

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the principles set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[5] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[49] the International Covenants on Human Rights,[22] the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,[135] the Convention on the Rights of the Child[50] and the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women,[136]

Recalling that the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[3] affirmed the human rights of women and the girl child as an inalienable, integral and indivisible part of universal human rights,

Welcoming the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development[137] which, *inter alia*, called upon all Governments to prevent all international trafficking in migrants, especially for the purpose of prostitution, and for the adoption by Governments of both receiving countries and countries of origin of effective sanctions against those who organize undocumented migration, exploit undocumented migrants or engage in trafficking in undocumented migrants, especially those who engage in any form of international traffic of women and children,

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[135] Resolution 39/46, annex.

[136] Resolution 48/104.

Recalling the recognition by the World Summit for Social Development, held at Copenhagen from 6 to 12 March 1995,[47] of the danger to society of the trafficking in women and children,

Welcoming the initiatives taken by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice[138] and the Ninth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, held at Cairo from 29 April to 8 May 1995,[69] towards criminalizing clandestine traffic in illegal migrants,

Concurring with the conclusion in the Platform for Action adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women at Beijing on 15 September 1995,[123] that the effective suppression of trafficking in women and girls for the sex trade is a matter of pressing international concern,

Recalling its resolution 49/166 of 23 December 1994, and taking note of Commission on the Status of Women resolution 39/6 of 29 March 1995,[139]

Acknowledging the work done by intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in compiling information on the scale and complexity of the problem of trafficking, in providing shelters for trafficked women and children and in effecting their voluntary repatriation to their countries of origin,

Noting with concern the increasing number of women and girl children from developing countries and from some countries with economies in transition who are being victimized by traffickers, and acknowledging that the problem of trafficking also victimizes young boys,

Convinced of the need to eliminate all forms of sexual violence and sexual trafficking, including for prostitution and other forms of commercial sex, which are violations of the human rights of women and girl children and are incompatible with the dignity and worth of the human person,

Realizing the urgent need for the adoption of effective measures nationally, regionally and internationally to protect women and girl children from this nefarious traffic,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the traffic in women and girls;[140]

2. *Appeals* to Governments to take appropriate measures to address the root factors, including external factors, that encourage trafficking in women and girls for prostitution and other forms of commercialized sex, forced marriages and forced labour, so as to eliminate trafficking in women, including by strengthening existing legislation with a view to providing better protection of the rights of women and girls and to punishing perpetrators, through both criminal and civil measures;

3. *Invites* Governments to combat trafficking in women and children through nationally and internationally coordinated measures, at the same time establishing or strengthening institutions for the protection of the victims of trafficking of women and children, and to ensure for victims the necessary assistance, including legal support services that are linguistically and culturally accessible, for their full protection, treatment and rehabilitation;

4. *Also invites* Governments to consider the development of standard minimum rules for the humanitarian treatment of trafficked persons, consistent with human rights standards;

5. *Urges* concerned Governments to support comprehensive, practical approaches by the international community to assist women and children victims of transnational trafficking to return home and be reintegrated into their home societies;

6. *Encourages* Member States to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others,[141] international agreements on the suppression of slavery and other relevant international instruments;

7. *Invites* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in addressing the obstacles to the realization of the human rights of women, in particular, through his contacts with the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on violence against women and the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, to include the traffic in women and girls among his priority concerns;

8. *Also encourages* the Centre for Human Rights of the Secretariat to include the traffic in women and girls in its programme of work under its advisory, training and information services, with a view to providing assistance to member Governments, upon their request, in instituting preventive measures against trafficking through education and appropriate information campaigns;

9. *Requests* the Commission on Human Rights to encourage the Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities to continue to address the issue of the traffic in women and girls under its draft programme of action on the traffic in persons and the exploitation of the prostitution of others;[142]

10. *Requests* the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to consider appropriate follow-up to the Ninth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders on measures to address the problem of trafficking in women and children and to submit a report thereon to the Secretary-General, through the usual channels, for inclusion in his report to the General Assembly;

11. *Invites* relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to provide advisory services to Governments, upon their request, in planning and setting up rehabilitation programmes for victims of trafficking and in training personnel who will be directly involved in the implementation of these programmes;

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[137] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex, chap. X.

[138] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1995, Supplement No. 10* (E/1995/30), chap. I, sect. B.III.

[139] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1995, Supplement No. 6 (E/1995/26), chap. I, sect. C.*

[140] A/50/369.

[141] Resolution 317 (IV), annex.

[142] See E/CN.4/Sub.2/1995/28/Add.1.

12. *Decides* to focus the International Day for the Abolition of Slavery, 2 December 1996, on the problem of trafficking in human persons, especially women and children, and to devote one meeting of the fifty-first session of the General Assembly to the discussion of this problem;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session, under the item entitled "Advancement of women", a comprehensive report on the implementation of the present resolution, with due regard for possible measures to improve the reporting procedure.

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50/168. Violence against women migrant workers

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 47/96 of 16 December 1992, 48/110 of 20 December 1993 and 49/165 of 23 December 1994, as well as Commission on the Status of Women resolution 38/7 of 18 March 1994,[143] and taking note of Commission on the Status of Women resolution 39/7 of 31 March 1995[144] and Commission on Human Rights resolution 1995/20 of 24 February 1995,[145]

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[146]

Taking note with concern of the report of the Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities on its twentieth session,[147] in particular its observations with respect to the treatment of migrant workers,

Acknowledging the preliminary report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on violence against women, its causes and its consequences,[148]

Stressing that the promotion of the human rights of women constitutes an integral part of human rights activities of the United Nations, as reaffirmed in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[3]

Affirming the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,[59] which called upon all countries to take full measures to eliminate all forms of exploitation, abuse, harassment and violence against women,

Welcoming the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development, adopted by the World Summit on 12 March 1995,[60] which declared that countries should take concrete measures against the exploitation of migrants,

Welcoming also the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action, adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women on 15 September 1995,[128] which recognized the vulnerability to violence and other forms of abuse of women migrants, including women migrant workers, whose legal status in the host country depends on employers who may exploit their situations,

Noting the large numbers of women from developing countries and from some countries with economies in transition who continue to venture forth to more affluent countries in search of a living for themselves and their families, as a consequence of poverty, unemployment and other socio-economic conditions, while acknowledging the primary duty of States to work for conditions that provide employment and security to their citizens,

Concerned by the continuing reports of grave abuses and acts of violence committed against the persons of women migrant workers by some employers in some host countries,

Encouraged by some measures adopted by some receiving countries to alleviate the plight of women migrant workers residing within their areas of jurisdiction,

Reiterating that acts of violence directed against women impair or nullify their enjoyment of their human rights and fundamental freedoms,

1. *Determines* to prevent and eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls;

2. *Calls upon* States Members of the United Nations to adopt measures for the effective implementation of the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women,[136] including applying them to women migrant workers, as well as all relevant measures emanating from recent world conferences;

3. *Encourages* Member States to enact and/or reinforce penal, civil, labour and administrative sanctions in domestic legislation to punish and redress the wrongs done to women and girls who are subjected to any form of violence, whether in the home, the workplace, the community or society;

4. *Also encourages* Member States to adopt and/or implement and periodically to review and analyse legislation to ensure its effectiveness in eliminating violence against women, emphasizing the prevention of violence and the prosecution of offenders, and to take measures to ensure the protection of women subjected to violence and that they have access to just and effective remedies, including compensation and indemnification and healing of victims, and for the rehabilitation of perpetrators;

5. *Reiterates* the need for States concerned, specifically the sending and receiving States of women migrant workers, to conduct regular consultations for the purpose of identifying problem areas in promoting and protecting the rights of women migrant workers and ensuring health, legal and social services for them, adopting specific measures to address these problems, setting up, as necessary, linguistically and culturally accessible services and mechanisms to implement these measures and, in general, creating conditions that foster greater harmony and tolerance between women migrant workers and the rest of the society in which they reside;

6. *Encourages* Member States to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,[9] as well as the Slavery Convention of 1926;[149]

7. *Recommends* that the issue of violence against women migrant workers be included in the agenda of the

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[143] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1994, Supplement No. 7 (E/1994/27), chap. I, sect. C.*

[144] Ibid., *1995, Supplement No. 6* (E/1995/26), chap. I, sect. C.

[145] Ibid., *Supplement No. 3* and corrigenda (E/1995/23 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. II.

[146] A/50/378.

[147] E/CN.4/Sub.2/1995/28 and Add.1.

[148] E/CN.4/1995/42.

[149] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 212, No. 2861.

inter-agency meeting that precedes the regular session of the Commission on the Status of Women;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to convene a meeting of an expert group, with the participation of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on violence against women and under the regular programme of the Division for the Advancement of Women of the Secretariat, to submit recommendations for improving coordination of the various efforts of United Nations agencies on the issue of violence against women migrant workers and to develop concrete indicators as a basis for determining the situation of women migrant workers for submission, through normal channels, to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session;

9. *Requests* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Centre for Human Rights of the Secretariat and the Special Rapporteur, as well as all relevant bodies and programmes in the United Nations system, when addressing the issue of violence against women, to give particular attention to the issue of violence perpetrated against women migrant workers and to submit reports thereon to the General Assembly;

10. *Invites* trade unions to support the realization of the rights of women migrant workers by assisting them in organizing themselves so as to enable them better to assert their rights;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session on the implementation of the present resolution, including on reports received from all authorities and bodies in the United Nations system, Member States, intergovernmental organizations and other concerned bodies, with due regard for possible measures to improve the reporting procedure.

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50/169. International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming once more the permanent validity of the principles and norms set forth in the basic instruments regarding the international protection of human rights, in particular the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[5] the International Covenants on Human Rights,[22] the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[6] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[150] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[50]

Bearing in mind the principles and norms established within the framework of the International Labour Organization and the importance of the work done in connection with migrant workers and members of their families in other specialized agencies and in various organs of the United Nations,

Reiterating that, despite the existence of an already established body of principles and norms, there is a need to make further efforts to improve the situation and to guarantee respect for the human rights and dignity of all migrant workers and members of their families,

Aware of the situation of migrant workers and members of their families and the marked increase in migratory movements that has occurred, especially in certain parts of the world,

Considering that, in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[3] all States are urged to guarantee the protection of the human rights of all migrant workers and members of their families,

Underlining the importance of the creation and promotion of conditions to foster greater harmony and tolerance between migrant workers and the rest of the society of the State in which they reside, with the aim of eliminating the growing manifestations of racism and xenophobia taking place in segments of many societies and perpetrated by individuals or groups against migrant workers,

Recalling its resolution 45/158 of 18 December 1990, by which it adopted and opened for signature, ratification and accession the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,

Bearing in mind that, in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, States are invited to consider the possibility of signing and ratifying the Convention at the earliest possible time,

Recalling that, in its resolution 49/175 of 23 December 1994, it requested the Secretary-General to submit to it at its fiftieth session a report on the status of the Convention,

1. *Expresses its deep concern* at the growing manifestations of racism, xenophobia and other forms of discrimination and inhuman or degrading treatment directed against migrant workers in different parts of the world;

2. *Welcomes* the signature or ratification of, or accession to, the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families by some Member States;

3. *Calls upon* all Member States to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the Convention as a matter of priority, and expresses the hope that it will enter into force at an early date;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, within existing resources, to provide all facilities and assistance necessary for the promotion of the Convention through the World Public Information Campaign on Human Rights and the programme of advisory services in the field of human rights;

5. *Invites* the organizations and agencies of the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to intensify their efforts with a view to disseminating information on and promoting understanding of the Convention;

6. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[151] and requests him to submit to it at its fifty-first session an updated report on the status of the Convention;

7. *Decides* to consider the report of the Secretary-General at its fifty-first session under the sub-item entitled "Implementation of human rights instruments".

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[150] Resolution 38/180, annex.

[151] A/50/469.

50/170. Effective implementation of international instruments on human rights, including reporting obligations under international instruments on human rights

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 49/178 of 23 December 1994, as well as other relevant resolutions,

Recalling also the relevant paragraphs of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[3]

Welcoming the call in the Platform for Action, adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women on 15 September 1995, both for intensified efforts to integrate the equal status and the human rights of all women and girls into the mainstream of United Nations system-wide activities and to address these issues regularly and systematically throughout relevant bodies and mechanisms, and for the related actions to be taken by, *inter alia*, the human rights treaty-monitoring bodies,[152]

Taking note of the recommendations proposed by the expert group on the integration of gender perspectives into United Nations human rights activities and programmes, which met at Geneva from 3 to 7 July 1995,[153]

Reaffirming that the full and effective implementation of United Nations human rights instruments is of major importance to the efforts of the Organization, pursuant to the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[5] to promote universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Considering that the effective functioning of the treaty bodies established pursuant to United Nations human rights instruments is indispensable for the full and effective implementation of such instruments,

Conscious of the importance of coordination of the human rights promotion and protection activities of the United Nations bodies active in the field of human rights,

Noting with appreciation the initiatives taken by a number of treaty bodies to elaborate early-warning measures and urgent procedures, within their mandates, with a view to preventing the occurrence, or reoccurrence, of serious human rights violations,

Recalling the reports of the five meetings of persons chairing the human rights treaty bodies, held from 1988 to 1994,

Expressing concern about the non-fulfilment by many States parties of their financial obligations under the relevant United Nations instruments on human rights,

Also expressing concern that the underresourcing of the Centre for Human Rights of the Secretariat is one impediment to the human rights treaty bodies in their ability to carry out their mandates effectively,

Reaffirming its responsibility to ensure the effective functioning of human rights treaty bodies established pursuant to instruments adopted by the General Assembly, and in this connection further reaffirming the importance of:

(*a*) Ensuring the effective functioning of the periodic reporting by States parties to these instruments;

(*b*) Securing sufficient financial, human and information resources to overcome existing difficulties with their effective functioning;

(*c*) Promoting greater efficiency and effectiveness through better coordination of the activities of the United Nations bodies active in the field of human rights, taking into account the need to avoid unnecessary duplication and overlapping of their mandates and tasks;

(*d*) Addressing questions of both reporting obligations and financial implications whenever elaborating any further instruments on human rights,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the persons chairing the human rights treaty bodies on their sixth meeting, held at Geneva from 18 to 22 September 1995,[154] and takes note of their conclusions and recommendations;

2. *Emphasizes* the need to ensure financing and adequate staff and information resources for the operations of the human rights treaty bodies and, with this in mind:

(*a*) Reiterates its request that the Secretary-General provide adequate resources in respect of each treaty body;

(*b*) Calls upon the Secretary-General to make the most efficient use of existing resources and to seek the resources necessary to give the treaty bodies adequate administrative support, access to technical expertise and access to appropriate databases and on-line information services;

(*c*) Requests that the Secretary-General report on this question to the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-second session and to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session;

3. *Welcomes* efforts to identify measures for more effective implementation of the United Nations human rights instruments, and in this regard takes note with interest of the plan of action of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to strengthen the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child;

4. *Urges* States parties to notify the Secretary-General, as depository of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination[6] and the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,[135] of their acceptance of the amendments approved by the States parties and the General Assembly in its resolution 47/111 of 16 December 1992;

5. *Calls upon* all States parties to fulfil without delay and in full their financial obligations, including their arrears, under the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment until the amendments enter into force;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to take the necessary measures to ensure that the two committees established under the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment meet as scheduled until the amendments enter into force;

7. *Welcomes* the continuing efforts by the treaty bodies and the Secretary-General aimed at streamlining, rationalizing and otherwise improving reporting procedures, and urges the treaty bodies and the meetings of persons chairing the human rights treaty bodies to continue to examine ways of reducing the duplication of reporting required under the different instruments, without impairing the quality of reporting, and of generally reducing the reporting burden on Member States, including through:

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[152] A/CONF.177/20, chap. I, resolution 1, annex II, paras. 221 and 231.

[153] See A/50/505, annex, para. 34.

[154] A/50/505, annex.

(*a*) Identifying where cross-referencing can be used in report writing;

(*b*) Recommending, where appropriate, the designation of specific national administrative units to coordinate reports to all treaty bodies;

(*c*) Establishing coordination between the treaty bodies and the International Labour Organization to identify overlap between their respective instruments and conventions;

(*d*) Considering the utility of single comprehensive reports and of replacing periodic reports with specifically tailored reports and thematic reports;

8. *Urges* States parties to contribute, individually and through meetings of States parties, to identifying and implementing ways of further streamlining, rationalizing, avoiding duplication in and otherwise improving reporting procedures;

9. *Encourages* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in accordance with his mandate, to request the independent expert to finalize his interim report on possible long-term approaches to enhancing the effective operation of the human rights treaty system[155] in time for the final report to be considered by the Commission on Human Rights, as requested by the General Assembly in resolution 48/120 of 20 December 1993, at its fifty-second session;

10. *Requests* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to ensure, from within existing resources, that the revision of the United Nations *Manual on Human Rights Reporting* is completed as soon as possible, that the revised manual is available in all official languages at the earliest opportunity and that due regard is paid to the recommendations concerning the manual made by the fifth meeting of persons chairing the human rights treaty bodies;

11. *Expresses concern* about the increasing backlog of reports on implementation by States parties to United Nations instruments on human rights and about delays in consideration of reports by the treaty bodies, and again urges States parties to make every effort to meet their reporting obligations;

12. *Invites* States parties that have been unable to comply with the requirements to submit their initial report to avail themselves of technical assistance;

13. *Encourages* the efforts of the human rights treaty bodies to examine the progress made in achieving the fulfilment of human rights treaty undertakings by all States parties, without exception;

14. *Urges* States parties to address, as a matter of priority, at their next scheduled meetings, the issue of States parties consistently not complying with their reporting obligations;

15. *Urges* all States parties whose reports have been examined by treaty bodies to provide adequate follow-up to the observations and final comments of the treaty bodies on their reports;

16. *Welcomes* the emphasis placed by the persons chairing the human rights treaty bodies and by the Commission on Human Rights on the importance of technical assistance and advisory services, and to this end:

(*a*) Welcomes the plans of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to report regularly to the Commission on possible technical assistance projects identified by the treaty bodies;

(*b*) Encourages the treaty bodies to continue to identify possibilities for technical assistance in the regular course of their work of reviewing the periodic reports of States parties;

17. *Welcomes also* the recommendation by the meeting of persons chairing the human rights treaty bodies that treaty bodies urge each State party to translate, publish and make widely available in its territory the full text of the concluding observations on its reports to the treaty-monitoring bodies, and requests the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to make every effort to ensure that recent reports and the summary records of committee discussions pertaining to them, as well as concluding observations and final comments of the treaty bodies, are made available in the United Nations information centres in the countries submitting those reports;

18. *Welcomes further* the contribution to the work of the human rights treaty bodies made by the specialized agencies and other United Nations bodies, and invites the specialized agencies, other United Nations bodies and the treaty bodies to continue to pursue further cooperation between them, bearing in mind the responsibilities of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the desirability of avoiding unnecessary duplication;

19. *Invites* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to consult the human rights treaty bodies in his efforts to promote cooperation with regional intergovernmental organizations where appropriate for the promotion and protection of human rights;

20. *Recognizes* the important role played by non-governmental organizations in the effective implementation of all human rights instruments, and encourages the exchange of information between the human rights treaty bodies and such organizations;

21. *Endorses* the recommendation of the persons chairing the human rights treaty bodies that each treaty body, in its examination of States' reports, place emphasis on the implementation by States parties of their obligations regarding human rights education and the provision of public information on human rights;

22. *Welcomes* the emphasis by the persons chairing the human rights treaty bodies that the enjoyment of the human rights of women should be closely monitored by each treaty body within the competence of its mandate;

23. *Welcomes also* all appropriate measures the human rights treaty bodies may take, within their mandates, in response to situations of massive human rights violations, including bringing those violations to the attention of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Secretary-General and the competent bodies of the United Nations in the field of human rights, and requests the High Commissioner, acting within his mandate, to coordinate and consult throughout the United Nations system in this regard;

24. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session on measures taken to implement the present resolution and on obstacles to its implementation;

25. *Decides* to continue giving priority consideration, at its fifty-first session, to the conclusions and recommendations of the meetings of persons chairing human rights treaty bodies, in the light of the deliberations of the Commission on Human Rights, under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

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[155] A/CONF.157/PC/62/Add.11/Rev.1.

50/171. International Covenants on Human Rights

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 48/119 of 20 December 1993, and taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1995/22 of 24 February 1995,[106]

Mindful that the International Covenants on Human Rights[22] constitute the first all-embracing and legally binding international treaties in the field of human rights and, together with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[5] form the core of the International Bill of Human Rights,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General[156] on the status of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[22] the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[22] and the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[157]

Noting that many States Members of the United Nations have yet to become parties to the International Covenants on Human Rights,

Recalling the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and reaffirming that all human rights and fundamental freedoms are indivisible and interrelated and that the promotion and protection of one category of rights should never exempt or excuse States from the promotion and protection of the other rights,

Recognizing the important role of the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in the implementation of the International Covenants on Human Rights and the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,

Welcoming the submission to the General Assembly of the annual report of the Human Rights Committee[158] and the report of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[159]

Considering that the effective functioning of treaty bodies established in accordance with the relevant provisions of international instruments on human rights plays a fundamental role and hence represents an important continuing concern of the United Nations,

Noting with concern the critical situation with regard to overdue reports from States parties to the International Covenants on Human Rights,

1. *Reaffirms* the importance of the International Covenants on Human Rights as major parts of international efforts to promote universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

2. *Appeals strongly* to all States that have not yet done so to become parties to the International Covenants on Human Rights as well as to accede to the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and to make the declaration provided for in article 41 of the Covenant;

3. *Invites* the Secretary-General to intensify systematic efforts to encourage States to become parties to the International Covenants on Human Rights and, through the programme of advisory services in the field of human rights, to assist such States, at their request, in ratifying or acceding to the Covenants and to the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;

4. *Emphasizes* the importance of the strictest compliance by States parties with their obligations under the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and, where applicable, the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;

5. *Stresses* the importance of avoiding the erosion of human rights by derogation, and underlines the necessity of strict observance of the agreed conditions and procedures for derogation under article 4 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, bearing in mind the need for States parties to provide the fullest possible information during states of emergency so that the justification for the appropriateness of measures taken in these circumstances can be assessed;

6. *Also stresses* the importance of fully taking into account the gender perspective in the implementation of the International Covenants on Human Rights at the national level, including the national reports, and in the work of the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights;

7. *Encourages* the States parties to consider limiting the extent of any reservations they lodge to the International Covenants on Human Rights, to formulate any reservations as precisely and narrowly as possible and to ensure that no reservation is incompatible with the object and purpose of the relevant treaty or otherwise contrary to international law;

8. *Also encourages* the States parties to review regularly any reservations made in respect of the provisions of the International Covenants on Human Rights with a view to withdrawing them;

9. *Takes note with appreciation* of the annual reports of the Human Rights Committee submitted to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth[160] and fiftieth[158] sessions;

10. *Also takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on its tenth and eleventh sessions;[159]

11. *Expresses its satisfaction* with the serious and constructive manner in which both Committees are carrying out their functions;

12. *Invites* the Committees to identify specific needs of States parties that might be addressed through the advisory services and technical assistance programme of the Centre for Human Rights of the Secretariat, with the possible participation of members of the Committees where appropriate;

13. *Welcomes* the continuing efforts of the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights to strive for uniform standards in the implementation of the provisions of the International Covenants on Human Rights, and appeals to other bodies dealing with similar human rights questions to respect these uniform standards, as expressed in the general comments of the Human Rights Committee;

14. *Urges* States parties to fulfil in good time such reporting obligations under the International Covenants on

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[156] A/50/472.

[157] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex, and resolution 44/128, annex.

[158] A/50/40.

[159] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1995, Supplement No. 2 and corrigendum* (E/1995/22 and Corr.1).

[160] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 40* (A/49/40).

Human Rights as may be requested and to make use of gender-disaggregated data in their reports;

15. *Also urges* States parties to take duly into account, in implementing the provisions of the International Covenants on Human Rights, the observations made at the conclusion of the consideration of their reports by the Human Rights Committee and by the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights;

16. *Invites* States parties to give particular attention to the dissemination at the national level of the reports they have submitted to the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the summary records relating to the examination of those reports by the Committees and the observations made by the Committees at the conclusion of the consideration of the reports;

17. *Encourages once again* all Governments to publish the texts of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights in as many local languages as possible and to distribute them and make them known as widely as possible in their territories;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consider ways and means of assisting States parties to the International Covenants on Human Rights in the preparation of their reports, including seminars or workshops at the national level for the purpose of training government officials engaged in the preparation of such reports, and the exploration of other possibilities available under the regular programme of advisory services in the field of human rights;

19. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the Centre for Human Rights effectively assists the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in the implementation of their respective mandates;

20. *Once again urges* the Secretary-General, taking into account the suggestions of the Human Rights Committee, to take determined steps to give more publicity to the work of that Committee and, similarly, to the work of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights;

21. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session, under the item entitled "Human rights questions", a report on the status of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, including all reservations and declarations.

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50/172. Respect for the principles of national sovereignty and non-interference in the internal affairs of States in their electoral processes

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the purpose of the United Nations to develop friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples and to take other appropriate measures to strengthen universal peace,

Recalling its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,

Recalling also its resolution 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970, by which it approved the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling further the principle enshrined in Article 2, paragraph 7, of the Charter of the United Nations, which establishes that nothing contained in the Charter shall authorize the United Nations to intervene in matters which are essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of any State or shall require the Members to submit such matters to settlement under the Charter,

Reaffirming the obligation of Member States to comply with the principles of the Charter and the resolutions of the United Nations regarding the right to self-determination, by virtue of which all peoples can freely determine, without external interference, their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development,

Reaffirming also, in this context, the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination,

Recognizing that the principles of national sovereignty and non-interference in the internal affairs of any State should be respected in the holding of elections,

Recognizing also that there is no single political system or single universal model for electoral processes equally suited to all nations and their peoples, and that political systems and electoral processes are subject to historical, political, cultural and religious factors,

Convinced that the establishment of the necessary mechanisms and means to guarantee full and effective popular participation in electoral processes corresponds to States,

Recalling all its resolutions in this regard,

Welcoming the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[3] in which the Conference reaffirmed that the processes of promoting and protecting human rights should be conducted in conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter,

1. *Reiterates* that, by virtue of the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, all peoples have the right, freely and without external interference, to determine their political status and to pursue their economic, social and cultural development, and that every State has the duty to respect that right in accordance with the provisions of the Charter;

2. *Reaffirms* that it is the concern solely of peoples to determine methods and to establish institutions regarding the electoral process, as well as to determine the ways for its implementation according to their constitution and national legislation, and that, consequently, States should establish the necessary mechanisms and means to guarantee full and effective popular participation in those processes;

3. *Reaffirms also* that any activities that attempt, directly or indirectly, to interfere in the free development of national electoral processes, in particular in the developing countries, or that are intended to sway the results of such processes, violate the spirit and letter of the principles established in the Charter and in the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations;

4. *Reaffirms further* that electoral assistance to Member States should be provided by the United Nations only at the request and with the consent of specific sovereign States, by virtue of resolutions adopted by the Security Council or the General Assembly in each case, in strict conformity with the principles of sovereignty and non-interference in the internal affairs of States, or in special circumstances such as cases of decolonization, or in the context of regional or international peace processes;

5. *Strongly appeals* to all States to refrain from financing or providing, directly or indirectly, any other form of overt or covert support for political parties or groups and from taking actions to undermine the electoral processes in any country;

6. *Condemns* any act of armed aggression or threat or use of force against peoples, their elected Governments or their legitimate leaders;

7. *Reaffirms* that all countries have the obligation under the Charter to respect the right of others to self-determination and to determine freely their political status and pursue their economic, social and cultural development;

8. *Decides* to consider this question at its fifty-second session under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

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50/173. United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education: towards a culture of peace

The General Assembly,

Recognizing that, in the context of respect for the permanent values on which the United Nations system is based, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization has, since its founding, worked to ensure the free circulation of ideas, to bring individuals and cultures closer together and to ensure respect for human rights, the effective exercise of democracy, justice and freedom,

Bearing in mind its resolutions 48/126 of 20 December 1993 and 49/213 of 23 December 1994 on the proclamation of the United Nations Year for Tolerance, and its resolution 49/184 of 23 December 1994 proclaiming the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education,

Welcoming with appreciation resolution 5.3 adopted by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its twenty-eighth session,[161] which invites the Director-General to implement the activities of the transdisciplinary project entitled "Towards a culture of peace", in particular unit 1, entitled "Education for peace, human rights, democracy, international understanding and tolerance",

Considering that the Plan of Action for the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education, 1995-2004[162] will make a fundamental contribution to understanding and peaceful coexistence among individuals and nations and is consistent with the transdisciplinary project entitled "Towards a culture of peace",

1. *Expresses its satisfaction* at the resolution 5.3 adopted by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its twenty-eighth session, which contains the transdisciplinary project entitled "Towards a culture of peace";

2. *Encourages* countries, regional organizations, non-governmental organizations and the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to take all necessary action to ensure education for peace, human rights, democracy, international understanding and tolerance;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session on the progress of educational activities in the framework of the transdisciplinary project entitled "Towards a culture of peace".

99th plenary meeting
22 December 1995

50/174. Strengthening of United Nations action in the human rights field through the promotion of international cooperation and the importance of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person and the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small, and reaffirming also its determination to promote social progress and better standards of living in greater freedom,

Bearing in mind that among the purposes of the United Nations are those of developing friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples and taking other appropriate measures to strengthen universal peace, as well as achieving international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character and in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion,

Recalling that, in accordance with Article 55 of the Charter of the United Nations, the Organization shall promote universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, with a view to the creation of conditions of stability and well-being that are necessary for peaceful and friendly relations among nations, based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples and that, in accordance with Article 56, all Members pledge themselves to take joint and separate action in cooperation with the Organization for the achievement of the purposes set forth in Article 55,

Reiterating that Member States should continue to act in the human rights field in conformity with the provisions of the Charter,

Desirous of achieving further progress in international cooperation in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Considering that such international cooperation should be based on the principles embodied in international law, especially the Charter, as well as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[5] the International Covenants on Human Rights[22] and other relevant instruments,

Deeply convinced that United Nations action in this field should be based not only on a profound understanding of the broad range of problems existing in all societies but also on full respect for the political, economic and social realities of each of them, in strict compliance with the purposes and principles of the Charter and for the basic purpose of promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms through international cooperation,

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[161] See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Twenty-eighth Session*, vol. 1, *Resolutions*, sect. IV.

[162] A/49/261/Add.1-E/1994/110/Add.1, annex.

Reaffirming all its resolutions in this regard,

Bearing in mind its resolutions 2131 (XX) of 21 December 1965, 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970 and 36/103 of 9 December 1981,

Reaffirming the importance of ensuring the universality, objectivity and non-selectivity of the consideration of human rights issues, as affirmed in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[3]

Aware of the fact that the promotion, protection and full exercise of all human rights and fundamental freedoms as legitimate concerns of the world community should be guided by the principles of universality, non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity and should not be used for political ends,

Affirming the importance of the objectivity, independence and discretion of the special rapporteurs and representatives on thematic issues and countries, as well as of the members of the working groups, in carrying out their mandates,

Affirming also the need to cooperate so as to strengthen, rationalize and streamline United Nations activities on human rights, taking into account the need to avoid unnecessary duplication,

Underlining the obligation that Governments have to promote and protect human rights and to carry out the responsibilities that they have undertaken under international law, especially the Charter, as well as various international instruments in the field of human rights,

1. *Reiterates* that, by virtue of the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, all peoples have the right freely to determine, without external interference, their political status and to pursue their economic, social and cultural development, and that every State has the duty to respect that right within the provisions of the Charter, including respect for territorial integrity;

2. *Reaffirms* that it is a purpose of the United Nations and the task of all Member States, in cooperation with the Organization, to promote and encourage respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms and to remain vigilant with regard to violations of human rights wherever they occur;

3. *Calls upon* all Member States to base their activities for the protection and promotion of human rights, including the development of further international cooperation in this field, on the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[5] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[22] the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[22] and other relevant international instruments, and to refrain from activities that are inconsistent with that international framework;

4. *Considers* that international cooperation in this field should make an effective and practical contribution to the urgent task of preventing mass and flagrant violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all and to the strengthening of international peace and security;

5. *Affirms* that the promotion, protection, and full realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, as legitimate concerns of the world community, should be guided by the principles of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity, and should not be used for political ends;

6. *Requests* all human rights bodies within the United Nations system, as well as the special rapporteurs and representatives, independent experts and working groups, to take duly into account the contents of the present resolution in carrying out their mandates;

7. *Expresses its conviction* that an unbiased and fair approach to human rights issues contributes to the promotion of international cooperation as well as to the effective promotion, protection and realization of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

8. *Stresses*, in this context, the continuing need for impartial and objective information on the political, economic and social situations and events of all countries;

9. *Invites* Member States to consider adopting, as appropriate, within the framework of their respective legal systems and in accordance with their obligations under international law, especially the Charter, and international human rights instruments, the measures that they may deem appropriate to achieve further progress in international cooperation in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms;

10. *Requests* the Commission on Human Rights to take duly into account the present resolution and to consider further proposals for the strengthening of United Nations action in the human rights field through the promotion of international cooperation and the importance of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity;

11. *Decides* to consider this matter at its fifty-first session under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

99th plenary meeting
22 December 1995

50/175. Respect for the right to universal freedom of travel and the vital importance of family reunification

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming that all human rights and fundamental freedoms are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated,

Recalling the provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[5]

Stressing that, as stated in the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,[59] family reunification of documented migrants is an important factor in international migration, and that remittances by documented migrants to their countries of origin often constitute a very important source of foreign exchange and are instrumental in improving the well-being of relatives left behind,

Recalling also its resolution 49/182 of 23 December 1994,

1. *Once again calls upon* all States to guarantee the universally recognized freedom of travel to all foreign nationals legally residing in their territory;

2. *Reaffirms* that all Governments, particularly those of receiving countries, must recognize the vital importance of family reunification and promote its incorporation into

national legislation in order to ensure protection of the unity of families of documented migrants;

3. *Calls upon* all States to allow, in conformity with international legislation, the free flow of financial remittances by foreign nationals residing in their territory to their relatives in the country of origin;

4. *Also calls upon* all States to refrain from enacting, and to repeal if it already exists, legislation intended as a coercive measure that discriminates against individuals or groups of legal migrants by adversely affecting family reunification and the right to send financial remittances to relatives in the country of origin;

5. *Decides* to continue its consideration of this question at its fifty-first session under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

99th plenary meeting
22 December 1995

50/176. National institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights

The General Assembly,

Recalling the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights concerning national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights,

Stressing the importance of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[5] the International Covenants on Human Rights[22] and other international instruments for promoting respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Convinced of the important role national institutions play in promoting and protecting human rights and fundamental freedoms and in developing and enhancing public awareness of those rights and freedoms,

Mindful in this regard of the guidelines on the structure and functioning of national and local institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 33/46 of 14 December 1978,

Recalling the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,[3] in which the World Conference on Human Rights reaffirmed the important and constructive role played by national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights, in particular in their advisory capacity to the competent authorities, their role in remedying human rights violations, in the dissemination of human rights information and in education in human rights,

Noting the diverse approaches adopted throughout the world for the promotion and protection of human rights at the national level, emphasizing the universality, indivisibility and interdependence of all human rights, and emphasizing and recognizing the value of such approaches to promoting universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Recalling the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights, as contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution 48/134 of 20 December 1993, and recognizing the need for their continued dissemination,

Welcoming the growing interest shown worldwide in the creation and strengthening of independent and pluralistic national institutions,

Recognizing that the United Nations plays an important role in assisting the development of national institutions,

Noting with satisfaction the constructive participation of representatives of a number of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights in international seminars and workshops,

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the updated report of the Secretary-General;[163]

2. *Reaffirms* the importance of the development of effective, independent and pluralistic national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights in keeping with the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action and, *inter alia*, the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution 48/134, and recognizes that it is the right of each State to choose the framework that is best suited to its particular needs at the national level;

3. *Encourages* Member States to establish or, where they already exist, to strengthen national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights, as outlined in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, and, where appropriate, to incorporate those elements in national development plans or in their preparation of national action plans;

4. *Encourages* national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights established by Member States to prevent and combat all violations of human rights as enumerated in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action and relevant international instruments;

5. *Affirms* the role of national institutions, where they exist, as appropriate agencies for the dissemination of human rights materials and public information activities, including those of the United Nations;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to give high priority to requests from Member States for assistance in the establishment and strengthening of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights as part of the programme of advisory services and technical assistance in the field of human rights, and invites Governments to contribute to the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Advisory Services and Technical Assistance in the Field of Human Rights for these purposes;

7. *Notes* the role of the coordinating committee created by national institutions at the second International Workshop on National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, held at Tunis from 13 to 17 December 1993, in close cooperation with the Centre for Human Rights of the Secretariat, to assist Governments and institutions, when requested, to follow up on relevant resolutions and recommendations concerning the strengthening of national institutions;

8. *Also notes* the importance of finding an appropriate form of participation by national institutions in relevant United Nations meetings dealing with human rights;

9. *Recognizes* the important and constructive role that non-governmental organizations may play, in cooperation with national institutions, for the better promotion and protection of human rights;

10. *Encourages* all Member States to take appropriate steps to promote the exchange of information and experi-

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[163] A/50/452.

ence concerning the establishment and effective operation of such national institutions;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session on the implementation of the present resolution.

99th plenary meeting
22 December 1995

50/177. United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education

The General Assembly,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[5]

Reaffirming article 26 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, according to which "education shall be directed to the full development of the human personality and to the strengthening of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms",

Recalling the provisions of other international human rights instruments, such as those of article 13 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights[22] and article 28 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[50] that reflect the aims of the aforementioned article,

Taking into account Commission on Human rights resolution 1993/56 of 9 March 1993,[36] in which the Commission recommended that knowledge of human rights, both in its theoretical dimension and its practical application, should be established as a priority in educational policies,

Convinced that human rights education should involve more than the provision of information and should constitute a comprehensive life-long process by which people at all levels in development and in all strata of society learn respect for the dignity of others and the means and methods of ensuring that respect in all societies,

Convinced also that human rights education contributes to a concept of development consistent with the dignity of women and men of all ages that takes into account the diverse segments of society such as children, indigenous people, minorities and disabled persons,

Taking into account the efforts to promote human rights education made by educators and non-governmental organizations in all parts of the world, as well as by intergovernmental organizations, including the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the International Labour Organization and the United Nations Children's Fund,

Convinced further that each woman, man and child, to realize their full human potential, must be made aware of all their human rights—civil, cultural, economic, political and social,

Believing that human rights education constitutes an important vehicle for the elimination of gender-based discrimination and ensuring equal opportunities through the promotion and protection of the human rights of women,

Aware of the experience in human rights education of United Nations peace-building operations, including the United Nations Observer Mission in El Salvador and the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia,

Considering the World Plan of Action on Education for Human Rights and Democracy,[164] adopted by the International Congress on Education for Human Rights and Democracy convened by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at Montreal from 8 to 11 March 1993, according to which education for human rights and democracy is itself a human right and a prerequisite for the realization of human rights, democracy and social justice,

Bearing in mind the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[3] in particular section II, paragraphs 78 to 82 thereof,

Recalling that it is the responsibility of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to coordinate relevant United Nations education and public information programmes in the field of human rights,

Recalling its resolution 49/184 of 23 December 1994, by which it proclaimed the ten-year period beginning on 1 January 1995 the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education, welcomed the Plan of Action for the Decade,[162] and requested the High Commissioner to coordinate the implementation of the Plan of Action,

Taking note of the report of the High Commissioner to the General Assembly, in which he stated that human rights education was essential for the encouragement of harmonious intercommunity relations, for mutual tolerance and understanding and, finally, for peace,[165]

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the implementation of the Plan of Action for the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education,[166] submitted in accordance with General Assembly resolution 49/184;

2. *Appeals* to all Governments to contribute to the implementation of the Plan of Action, and in particular, in accordance with national conditions, to establish a national focal point (national committee) for human rights education and a resource and training centre for human rights education or, where such a centre already exists, to work towards its strengthening, and to develop and implement an action-oriented national plan for human rights education, as foreseen in the Plan of Action;

3. *Requests* the High Commissioner to coordinate the implementation of the Plan of Action and to carry out the tasks enumerated therein;

4. *Requests* the Centre for Human Rights of the Secretariat and the Commission on Human Rights, in cooperation with the existing human rights monitoring bodies, United Nations specialized agencies and programmes and other competent intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to support efforts by the High Commissioner in the implementation of the Plan of Action;

5. *Requests* the existing human rights monitoring bodies to place emphasis on the implementation by Member States of their international obligation to promote human rights education;

6. *Invites* all relevant specialized agencies, in particular the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the International Labour Organization, United Nations bodies, especially the United Nations Children's Fund, and other intergovernmental organizations to

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[164] See A/CONF.157/PC/42/Add.6.

[165] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 36* (A/50/36), para. 54.

[166] A/50/698, annex.

contribute, within their respective spheres of competence, to the implementation of the Plan of Action and to cooperate with the High Commissioner for that purpose;

7. *Calls upon* international, regional and national non-governmental organizations, in particular those concerned with women, labour, development and the environment, as well as other social justice groups, human rights advocates, educators, religious organizations and the media, to increase their involvement in formal and non-formal education in human rights and to cooperate with the High Commissioner and the Centre for Human Rights in implementing the Plan of Action;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consider the possibility of establishing a voluntary fund for human rights education, with special provision for the support of the human rights education activities of non-governmental organizations, to be administered by the Centre for Human Rights;

9. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all members of the international community and to intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned with human rights and education;

10. *Decides* to consider this matter at its fifty-first session under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

99th plenary meeting
22 December 1995

50/178. Situation of human rights in Cambodia

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[5] and the International Covenants on Human Rights,[22]

Taking note of the Agreement on a Comprehensive Political Settlement of the Cambodia Conflict,[167] signed in Paris on 23 October 1991, including part III thereof, relating to human rights,

Taking note also of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1995/55 of 3 March 1995,[38] and recalling General Assembly resolution 49/199 of 23 December 1994 and previous relevant resolutions, including Commission on Human Rights resolution 1993/6 of 19 February 1993,[36] in which the Commission recommended the appointment of a special representative for Cambodia, and the subsequent appointment by the Secretary-General of a special representative,

Bearing in mind the role and responsibilities of the United Nations and the international community in the process of the rehabilitation and reconstruction of Cambodia,

Recognizing that the tragic recent history of Cambodia requires special measures to assure the promotion and protection of the human rights of all people in Cambodia and the non-return to the policies and practices of the past, as stipulated in the Agreement signed in Paris on 23 October 1991,

Commending the continued operation in Cambodia of the office of the Centre for Human Rights of the Secretariat,

Welcoming the understanding reached between the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General and the Government of Cambodia in May 1995 regarding increased consultations between the Centre for Human Rights and the Government of Cambodia,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to assure the protection of the human rights of all people in Cambodia and to ensure adequate resources, from within existing United Nations resources, for the enhanced functioning of the operational presence in Cambodia of the Centre for Human Rights of the Secretariat;

2. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on the role of the Centre for Human Rights in assisting the Government and people of Cambodia in the promotion and protection of human rights;[168]

3. *Welcomes also* the continuing role of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in the promotion and protection of human rights in Cambodia;

4. *Welcomes and encourages* the efforts of individuals, non-governmental organizations, Governments and international organizations involved in human rights activities in Cambodia;

5. *Takes note with appreciation* of the most recent report submitted by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for human rights in Cambodia,[169] and endorses his recommendations and conclusions, including those aimed at ensuring the independence of the judiciary and the establishment of the rule of law, good governance, freedom of expression and the promotion of an effectively functioning multi-party democracy;

6. *Notes* that communal elections are due to be held in 1996 or early 1997 and National Assembly elections in 1998, and urges the Government of Cambodia to promote and uphold the effective functioning of multi-party democracy, including the right to form political parties, stand for election, take part freely in a representative government and to freedom of expression, in accordance with the principles set out in paragraphs 2 and 4 of annex 5 to the Agreement signed in Paris on 23 October 1991;

7. *Requests* the Special Representative, in collaboration with the office in Cambodia of the Centre for Human Rights, to continue his evaluation of the extent to which the recommendations made by the Special Representative in his report,[169] and those contained in his previous reports, are followed up and implemented, and strongly encourages the Government of Cambodia to continue to cooperate with the Special Representative;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide all necessary resources, from within the regular budget of the United Nations, to enable the Special Representative to continue to fulfil his tasks expeditiously;

9. *Welcomes* the efforts made by the Government of Cambodia to promote and protect human rights, in particular in the essential area of creating a functioning system of justice, urges that efforts continue in this area, and also encourages the Government to improve the conditions of prisons;

10. *Expresses grave concern* about the atrocities that continue to be committed by the Khmer Rouge, including the taking and killing of hostages, and other deplorable incidents detailed in the reports of the Special Representative;

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[167] A/46/608-S/23177, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-sixth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1991*, document S/23177.

[168] A/50/681/Add.1.

[169] See A/50/681.

11. *Also expresses grave concern* about the serious violations of human rights as detailed by the Special Representative in his report, and calls upon the Government of Cambodia to prosecute in accordance with the due process of the law and international standards relating to human rights all those who have perpetrated human rights violations;

12. *Expresses particularly grave concern* at the comments made by the Special Representative concerning the reluctance of the courts to charge members of the military and other security forces for serious criminal offences, and encourages the Government of Cambodia to address this problem, which in effect places persons in authority above the principle of equality before the law;

13. *Further expresses grave concern* at the devastating consequences and destabilizing effects of the indiscriminate use of anti-personnel landmines on Cambodian society, encourages the Government of Cambodia to continue its support and efforts for the removal of these mines, and welcomes the intention of the Government of Cambodia to ban all anti-personnel landmines;

14. *Calls upon* the Government of Cambodia to ensure the full observance of human rights for all persons within its jurisdiction in accordance with the International Covenants on Human Rights and other human rights instruments to which Cambodia is a party;

15. *Encourages* the Government of Cambodia to continue its efforts to meet its reporting obligations under international human rights instruments, drawing on the assistance of the office in Cambodia of the Centre for Human Rights;

16. *Also encourages* the Government of Cambodia to request the Centre for Human Rights to provide advice and technical assistance with respect to the creation of an independent national institution for the promotion and protection of human rights;

17. *Further encourages* the Government of Cambodia to maintain constructive dialogue and consultation with the Centre for Human Rights concerning its activities in Cambodia;

18. *Commends* the ongoing efforts of the office in Cambodia of the Centre for Human Rights in supporting and assisting the Government of Cambodia, as well as non-governmental organizations and others involved in the promotion and protection of human rights in cooperation with the Government of Cambodia;

19. *Condemns unreservedly* attacks on and threats against staff of the United Nations, non-governmental organizations and the Cambodian Government, as well as individuals, and calls upon the Government of Cambodia to investigate those attacks and threats and to prosecute those who are responsible, in accordance with the due process of the law and international standards relating to the administration of justice;

20. *Notes with appreciation* the use by the Secretary-General of the United Nations Trust Fund for a Human Rights Education Programme in Cambodia to finance the programme of activities of the office in Cambodia of the Centre for Human Rights as defined in resolutions of the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights, and invites Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, foundations and individuals to consider contributing funds to the Trust Fund;

21. *Requests* the Centre for Human Rights, in cooperation with the relevant specialized agencies and development programmes, to develop and implement programmes, with the consent and cooperation of the Government of Cambodia, in the priority areas identified by the Special Representative, paying particular attention to vulnerable groups, including women, children and minorities;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session on the role of the Centre for Human Rights in assisting the Government and people of Cambodia in the promotion and protection of human rights and on the recommendations made by the Special Representative on matters within his mandate;

23. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the situation of human rights in Cambodia at its fifty-first session.

99th plenary meeting
22 December 1995

50/179. Strengthening of the rule of law

The General Assembly,

Recalling that, by adopting the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[5] Member States have pledged themselves to achieve, in cooperation with the United Nations, the promotion of universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Firmly convinced that, as stressed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the rule of law is an essential factor in the protection of human rights,

Convinced that through their own national legal and judicial systems States must provide appropriate civil, criminal and administrative remedies for violations of human rights,

Recognizing the importance of the role that can be played by the Centre for Human Rights of the Secretariat in supporting national efforts to strengthen the institutions of the rule of law,

Bearing in mind that, in its resolution 48/141 of 20 December 1993, the General Assembly entrusted the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights with, *inter alia*, providing through the Centre and other appropriate institutions advisory services and technical and financial assistance in the field of human rights, enhancing international cooperation for the promotion and protection of all human rights and coordinating human rights activities throughout the United Nations system,

Recalling the recommendation of the World Conference on Human Rights that a comprehensive programme be established within the United Nations and under the coordination of the Centre with a view to helping States in the task of building and strengthening adequate national structures that have a direct impact on the overall observance of human rights and the maintenance of the rule of law,[170]

Recalling also its resolution 49/194 of 23 December 1994, and taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1995/54 of 3 March 1995,[38]

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report of the Secretary-General;[171]

2. *Takes note with interest* of the proposals contained in the report of the Secretary-General for strengthening the programme of advisory services and technical assistance

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[170] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III, sect. II, para. 69.

[171] A/50/653.

of the Centre for Human Rights of the Secretariat in order to comply fully with the recommendations of the World Conference on Human Rights concerning assistance to States in strengthening their institutions in the rule of law;

3. *Praises* the efforts made by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Centre to accomplish their ever-increasing tasks with the limited financial and personnel resources at their disposal;

4. *Expresses its deep concern* at the scarcity of means at the disposal of the Centre for the fulfilment of its tasks;

5. *Notes* that the programme of advisory services and technical assistance does not have assistance funds sufficient to provide any substantial financial assistance to national projects that have a direct impact on the realization of human rights and the maintenance of the rule of law in countries that are committed to those ends, but which face economic hardship;

6. *Affirms* that the High Commissioner, with the assistance of the Centre, remains the focal point for coordinating system-wide attention for human rights, democracy and the rule of law;

7. *Welcomes* the consultations and contacts initiated by the High Commissioner with other relevant bodies and programmes of the United Nations system aiming at the enhancement of inter-agency coordination and cooperation in providing assistance for the strengthening of the rule of law;

8. *Encourages* the High Commissioner to pursue these consultations, taking into account the need to explore new synergies with other organs and agencies of the United Nations system with a view to obtaining increased financial assistance for human rights and the rule of law;

9. *Requests* the High Commissioner to continue to explore the possibilities of obtaining from all relevant institutions of the United Nations system, including financial institutions, acting within their mandates, technical and financial means to strengthen the capacity of the Centre to provide assistance to national projects aiming at the realization of human rights and the maintenance of the rule of law;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session on the results of the contacts established in accordance with paragraph 9 above, as well as on any other developments pertaining to the implementation of the above-mentioned recommendation of the World Conference on Human Rights.[170]

99th plenary meeting
22 December 1995

50/180. Effective promotion of the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 47/135 of 18 December 1992, by which it adopted the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities, as well as its resolution 49/192 of 23 December 1994,

Conscious of the need effectively to promote and protect the rights of persons belonging to minorities, as set out in the Declaration,

Taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1995/24 of 3 March 1995 on the rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities,[38] in which the Commission, *inter alia*, decided to authorize the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities to establish, initially for a three-year period, an inter-sessional working group consisting of five of its members, to meet each year for five working days in order to promote the rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities,

Taking note also of Economic and Social Council resolution 1995/31 of 25 July 1995, in which the Council authorized the establishment of the working group,

Noting that the working group held its first session from 28 August to 1 September 1995, and that its report will be made available to the Commission on Human Rights,

Aware of the provisions of article 27 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[22] concerning the rights of persons belonging to ethnic, religious or linguistic minorities,

Acknowledging that the United Nations has an increasingly important role to play regarding the protection of minorities by, *inter alia*, taking due account of and giving effect to the Declaration,

Concerned by the growing frequency and severity of disputes and conflicts concerning minorities in many countries, and their often tragic consequences,

Affirming that effective measures and the creation of favourable conditions for the promotion and protection of the rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities, ensuring effective non-discrimination and equality for all, contribute to the prevention and peaceful solution of human rights problems and situations involving minorities,

Considering that the promotion and protection of the rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities contribute to political and social stability and peace and enrich the cultural heritage of society as a whole of the States in which such persons live,

Reaffirming the obligation of States to ensure that persons belonging to minorities may exercise fully and effectively all human rights and fundamental freedoms without any discrimination and in full equality before the law in accordance with the Declaration,

Noting the positive initiatives of many countries as well as regional organizations to protect minorities and promote mutual understanding,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[172]

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General;

2. *Urges* States and the international community to promote and protect the rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities, as set out in the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities, including through the facilitation of their full participation in all aspects of the political, economic, social, religious and cultural life of society and in the economic progress and development in their country;

3. *Urges* States to take, as appropriate, all the necessary constitutional, legislative, administrative and other measures to promote and give effect to the principles contained in the Declaration;

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[172] A/50/514.

4. *Appeals* to States to make bilateral and multilateral efforts, as appropriate, in order to protect the rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities in their countries, in accordance with the Declaration;

5. *Recognizes* that respect for human rights and the promotion of understanding and tolerance by Governments as well as between and among minorities is central to the protection and promotion of the rights of persons belonging to minorities;

6. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to make available, at the request of Governments concerned, qualified expertise on minority issues, including the prevention and resolution of disputes, to assist in existing or potential situations involving minorities;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in the implementation of the present resolution, to provide human and financial resources for such advisory services and technical assistance by the Centre for Human Rights of the Secretariat, within existing resources;

8. *Calls upon* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to promote, within his mandate, the implementation of the Declaration and to continue to engage in a dialogue with Governments concerned for that purpose;

9. *Urges* all treaty bodies and special representatives, special rapporteurs and working groups of the Commission on Human Rights and the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities to give due regard, within their respective mandates, to the promotion and protection of the rights of persons belonging to minorities;

10. *Invites* States, interested intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, special representatives, special rapporteurs and working groups of the Commission on Human Rights to continue to submit, as appropriate, contributions as to how they promote and give effect to the Declaration;

11. *Invites* the Secretary-General to continue the dissemination of information on the Declaration and the promotion of understanding thereof, including through activities within the framework of the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education;

12. *Calls upon* States and the Secretary-General to give due regard to the Declaration in their respective training programmes for officials;

13. *Encourages* intergovernmental as well as non-governmental organizations to continue to contribute to the promotion and protection of the rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session on the implementation of the present resolution under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

99th plenary meeting
22 December 1995

50/181. Human rights in the administration of justice

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 48/137 of 20 December 1993, and taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1995/41 of 3 March 1995 on human rights in the administration of justice, in particular of children and juveniles in detention,[38]

Bearing in mind the principles embodied in articles 3, 5, 9, 10 and 11 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[5] and the relevant provisions of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Optional Protocols thereto,[173] in particular article 6 of the Covenant, which explicitly states that no one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his life and prohibits the imposition of the death penalty for crimes committed by persons below eighteen years of age,

Bearing in mind also the relevant principles embodied in the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,[135] the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination[6] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[50]

Mindful of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[49] in particular of the obligation of States to treat men and women equally in all stages of procedures in courts and tribunals,

Calling attention to the numerous international standards in the field of the administration of justice,

Recognizing that the rule of law and the proper administration of justice are important elements for sustainable economic and social development and play a central role in the promotion and protection of human rights,

Welcoming the important work of the Commission on Human Rights and of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities in the field of human rights in the administration of justice, in particular regarding the independence of the judiciary, the independence of judges and lawyers, the right to a fair trial, habeas corpus, human rights and states of emergency, the question of arbitrary detention, the human rights of juveniles in detention, the privatization of prisons and the question of the impunity of perpetrators of violations of human rights,

Welcoming also Commission on Human Rights resolution 1995/36 of 3 March 1995 on the independence and impartiality of the judiciary, jurors and assessors and the independence of lawyers,[38]

Welcoming further the important work of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in the field of human rights in the administration of justice, as reflected, *inter alia*, in Economic and Social Council resolution 1995/13 on United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice and resolution 1995/15 on technical cooperation and interregional advisory services in crime prevention and criminal justice, of 24 July 1995,

Emphasizing the importance of coordinating the activities in this field carried out under the responsibility of the Commission on Human Rights with those under the responsibility of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice,

Noting that many human rights violations in the administration of justice are specifically or primarily directed against women and that the identification and reporting of those violations demand special vigilance,

Aware of the specific situation of children and juveniles in detention and their special needs while deprived of their liberty, in particular their vulnerability to various forms of abuse, injustice and humiliation,

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[173] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex, and resolution 44/128, annex.

1. *Reaffirms* the importance of the full and effective implementation of all United Nations standards on human rights in the administration of justice;

2. *Acknowledges* that the administration of justice, including law enforcement and prosecutorial agencies and, especially, an independent judiciary and legal profession in full conformity with applicable standards contained in international human rights instruments, are essential to the full and non-discriminatory realization of human rights and indispensable to democratization processes and sustainable development;

3. *Once again reiterates its call* to all Member States to spare no effort in providing for effective legislative and other mechanisms and procedures, as well as adequate resources, to ensure full implementation of those standards;

4. *Appeals* to Governments to include in their national development plans the administration of justice as an integral part of the development process and to allocate adequate resources for the provision of legal-aid services with a view to the promotion and protection of human rights;

5. *Invites* Governments to provide training in human rights in the administration of justice, including juvenile justice, to all judges, lawyers, prosecutors, social workers and other professionals concerned, including police and immigration officers;

6. *Encourages* States to make use of technical assistance offered by the United Nations programmes of advisory services and technical assistance, in order to strengthen national capacities and infrastructures in the field of the administration of justice;

7. *Urges* the Secretary-General to consider favourably requests by States for assistance in the field of the administration of justice and to strengthen system-wide coordination in this field, in particular between the United Nations programme of advisory services and technical assistance in the field of human rights and the technical cooperation and advisory services of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme;

8. *Invites* the international community to respond favourably to requests for financial and technical assistance for the enhancement and strengthening of the administration of justice, with a view to ensuring the promotion and protection of human rights in the administration of justice;

9. *Calls upon* special rapporteurs, special representatives and working groups of the Commission on Human Rights to continue to give special attention to questions relating to the effective protection of human rights in the administration of justice and to provide, wherever appropriate, specific recommendations in this regard, including proposals for concrete measures of advisory services and technical assistance;

10. *Acknowledges* the important role of the regional commissions, specialized agencies and United Nations institutes in the area of human rights and crime prevention and criminal justice, and of other organizations of the United Nations system, as well as intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, including national professional associations concerned with promoting United Nations standards in this field;

11. *Invites* the Commission on Human Rights and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to coordinate closely their activities relating to the administration of justice;

12. *Decides* to consider the question of human rights in the administration of justice at its fifty-second session under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

99th plenary meeting
22 December 1995

50/182. Human rights and mass exoduses

The General Assembly,

Deeply disturbed by the escalating scale and magnitude of exoduses of refugees and displacements of population in many regions of the world and by the human suffering of millions of refugees and displaced persons,

Recalling its previous relevant resolutions, as well as those of the Commission on Human Rights, in particular Commission resolution 1995/88 of 8 March 1995,[38] and the conclusions of the World Conference on Human Rights,[3] which recognized that gross violations of human rights, including in armed conflicts, are among the multiple and complex factors leading to displacement of people, and the need for a comprehensive approach by the international community to address root causes and effects of movements of refugees and other displaced persons and the strengthening of emergency preparedness and response mechanisms,

Conscious of the fact that mass exoduses of populations are caused by multiple and complex factors, such as human rights violations, political, ethnic and economic conflicts, famine, insecurity, violence, poverty and environmental degradation, which indicate that any approach to early warning requires an intersectoral and multidisciplinary approach,

Noting that the Secretary-General, in his report entitled "An Agenda for Peace",[174] identifies the protection of human rights and the promotion of economic well-being as important elements of peace, security and development,

Noting the continuation of the inter-agency consultations on early warning regarding new mass flows of refugees and displaced persons,

Recognizing the important aspects of complementarity between the system for the protection of human rights and humanitarian action, and that humanitarian agencies make an important contribution to the achievement of human rights,

Stressing the need for strengthening international cooperation aimed at averting new massive flows of refugees while providing durable solutions to actual refugee situations,

Recognizing that the human rights machinery of the United Nations, including the mechanisms of the Commission on Human Rights and the human rights treaty bodies, has important capabilities to address human rights violations that cause movements of refugees and displaced persons or prevent durable solutions to their plight,

Recognizing also that women and children constitute approximately 80 per cent of most refugee populations and that, in addition to the problems and needs they share with all refugees, women and girls in such circumstances are vulnerable to gender-based discrimination and gender-specific violence and exploitation,

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[174] A/47/277-S/24111; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-seventh Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1992*, document S/24111.

Reiterating that development and rehabilitation assistance is essential in addressing some of the causes of mass exoduses and also in the context of the development of prevention strategies,

Welcoming the continuing efforts of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to meet the protection and assistance needs of refugees and other persons of concern to her Office worldwide,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[175]

2. *Recalls with satisfaction* its endorsement, in its resolution 41/70 of 3 December 1986, of the call upon all States to promote human rights and fundamental freedoms and to refrain from denying these to individuals in their population because of nationality, ethnicity, race, religion or language;

3. *Strongly deplores* ethnic and other forms of intolerance as one of the major causes of forced migratory movements, and urges States to take all necessary steps to ensure respect for human rights, especially the rights of persons belonging to minorities;

4. *Invites again* all Governments and intergovernmental, humanitarian and non-governmental organizations concerned to intensify their cooperation and assistance in worldwide efforts to address the serious problems resulting from mass exoduses of refugees and displaced persons and the causes of such exoduses;

5. *Encourages* States that have not already done so to consider acceding to the 1951 Convention[97] and the 1967 Protocol[98] relating to the Status of Refugees and to other relevant regional refugee instruments, as applicable, and relevant international human rights instruments;

6. *Notes with appreciation* the contribution made by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Centre for Human Rights of the Secretariat to the development of the humanitarian early-warning system of the Department of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat, and takes note of ongoing consultations in this regard;

7. *Invites* the special rapporteurs, special representatives and working groups of the Commission on Human Rights and the United Nations human rights treaty bodies, acting within their mandates, to continue seeking information, where appropriate, on problems resulting in mass exoduses of populations or impeding their voluntary return home and, where appropriate, to include such information, together with recommendations thereon, in their reports and to bring such information to the attention of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, for appropriate action within his mandate, in consultation with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees;

8. *Requests* all United Nations bodies, including the human rights treaty bodies, the specialized agencies and governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to cooperate fully with all mechanisms of the Commission and, in particular, to provide them with all relevant information in their possession on the human rights situations creating or affecting refugees and displaced persons;

9. *Requests* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in accordance with his mandate, as set out in General Assembly resolution 48/141 of 20 December 1993, and in cooperation with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, to pay attention to situations that cause or threaten to cause mass exoduses and to address effectively such situations through emergency preparedness and response mechanisms, including information-sharing with United Nations early-warning mechanisms, and the provision of technical advice, expertise and cooperation;

10. *Invites* the Secretary-General to attach high priority and to make available the necessary resources within the regular budget of the United Nations for the consolidation and strengthening of emergency preparedness and response mechanisms, including early-warning activities in the humanitarian area, for the purpose of ensuring, *inter alia*, that effective action is taken to identify all multiple and complex factors, including human rights violations, that contribute to mass outflows of persons;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare and submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session a report containing detailed information on the programmatic, institutional, administrative, financial and managerial efforts instituted to enhance the capacity of the United Nations to avert new flows of refugees and to tackle the root causes of such outflows;

12. *Decides* to continue its consideration of this question at its fifty-second session.

99th plenary meeting
22 December 1995

50/183. Elimination of all forms of religious intolerance

The General Assembly,

Recalling that all States have pledged themselves, under the Charter of the United Nations, to promote and encourage universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion,

Recognizing that these rights derive from the inherent dignity of the human person,

Emphasizing that the right to freedom of thought, conscience, religion and belief is far-reaching and profound and that it encompasses freedom of thought on all matters, personal conviction and the commitment to religion or belief, whether manifested individually or in community with others,

Recalling article 18 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[22]

Reaffirming that discrimination against human beings on the grounds of religion or belief constitutes an affront to human dignity and a disavowal of the principles of the Charter,

Reaffirming also its resolution 36/55 of 25 November 1981, by which it proclaimed the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief,

Reaffirming further the call of the World Conference on Human Rights for all Governments to take all appropriate measures in compliance with their international obligations and with due regard to their respective legal systems to counter intolerance and related violence based on religion or belief, including practices of discrimination against women and the desecration of religious sites, recognizing that every individual has the right to freedom of thought, conscience, expression and religion,[176]

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[175] A/50/566.

Recalling that the World Conference on Human Rights recognized that the process of promoting and protecting human rights should be conducted in conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter and international law,[177]

Calling upon all Governments to cooperate with the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on religious intolerance to enable him to carry out his mandate fully,

Recognizing that it is desirable to enhance the promotional and public information activities of the United Nations in matters relating to freedom of religion or belief and that both Governments and non-governmental organizations have an important role to play in this domain,

Emphasizing that non-governmental organizations and religious bodies and groups at every level have an important role to play in the promotion of tolerance and the protection of freedom of religion or belief,

Conscious of the importance of education in ensuring tolerance of religion and belief,

Welcoming the inclusion of events relating to tolerance and religious diversity among the activities undertaken during the United Nations Year for Tolerance,

Alarmed that serious instances of intolerance and discrimination on the grounds of religion or belief, including acts of violence, intimidation and coercion motivated by religious extremism, occur in many parts of the world and threaten the enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Deeply concerned that, as reported by the Special Rapporteur, the rights violated on religious grounds include the right to life, the right to physical integrity and to liberty and security of person, the right to freedom of expression, the right not to be subjected to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, and the right not to be arbitrarily arrested or detained,

Believing that further efforts are therefore required to promote and protect the right to freedom of thought, conscience, religion and belief and to eliminate all forms of hatred, intolerance and discrimination based on religion or belief,

1. *Reaffirms* that freedom of thought, conscience, religion and belief is a human right derived from the inherent dignity of the human person and guaranteed to all without discrimination;

2. *Urges* States to ensure that their constitutional and legal systems provide adequate and effective guarantees of freedom of thought, conscience, religion and belief to all without discrimination, including the provision of effective remedies in cases where the right to freedom of religion or belief is violated;

3. *Also urges* States to ensure, in particular, that no one within their jurisdiction is, because of their religion or belief, deprived of the right to life or the right to liberty and security of person, or is subjected to torture or arbitrary arrest or detention;

4. *Condemns* all instances of hatred, intolerance and acts of violence, intimidation and coercion motivated by religious extremism and intolerance of religion or belief;

5. *Further urges* States, in conformity with international standards of human rights, to take all necessary action to prevent such instances, to take all appropriate measures to combat hatred, intolerance and acts of violence, intimidation and coercion motivated by religious extremism and to encourage understanding, tolerance and respect in matters relating to freedom of religion or belief;

6. *Recognizes* that legislation alone is not enough to prevent violations of human rights, including the right to freedom of religion or belief;

7. *Emphasizes* that, as underlined by the Human Rights Committee, restrictions on the freedom to manifest religion or belief are permitted only if limitations are prescribed by law; are necessary to protect public safety, order, health or morals or the fundamental rights and freedoms of others; and are applied in a manner that does not vitiate the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion;

8. *Urges* States to ensure that, in the course of their official duties, members of law enforcement bodies, civil servants, educators and other public officials respect different religions and beliefs and do not discriminate against persons professing other religions or beliefs;

9. *Calls upon* all States to recognize, as provided in the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief, the right of all persons to worship or assemble in connection with a religion or belief, and to establish and maintain places for those purposes;

10. *Expresses its grave concern* at any attack upon religious places, sites and shrines, and calls upon all States, in accordance with their national legislation and in conformity with international human rights standards, to exert utmost efforts to ensure that such places, sites and shrines are fully respected and protected;

11. *Recognizes* that the exercise of tolerance and non-discrimination by persons and groups is necessary for the full realization of the aims of the Declaration;

12. *Considers it desirable* to enhance the promotional and public information activities of the United Nations in matters relating to freedom of religion or belief and to ensure that appropriate measures are taken to this end, including the dissemination, as a matter of high priority, of the text of the Declaration by United Nations information centres, as well as by other interested bodies;

13. *Encourages* the continued efforts on the part of the Special Rapporteur appointed to examine incidents and governmental actions in all parts of the world that are incompatible with the provisions of the Declaration and to recommend remedial measures as appropriate;

14. *Invites* the Special Rapporteur, within the terms of his mandate and in the context of recommending remedial measures, to take into account the experiences of various States as to which measures are most effective in promoting freedom of religion and belief and countering all forms of intolerance;

15. *Encourages* Governments to give serious consideration to inviting the special Rapporteur to visit their countries so as to enable him to fulfil his mandate even more effectively;

16. *Recommends* that the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of thought, conscience, religion and belief be given appropriate priority in the work of the United Nations programme of advisory services in the field of human rights, including with regard to the drafting of legal texts in conformity with international instruments

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[176] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III, sect. II, para. 22.

[177] Ibid., sect. I, para. 7.

on human rights and taking into account the provisions of the Declaration;

17. *Welcomes and encourages* the efforts of non-governmental organizations to promote the implementation of the Declaration, and invites them to consider what further contribution they could make to its implementation and dissemination in all parts of the world;

18. *Requests* the Commission on Human Rights to continue its consideration of measures to implement the Declaration;

19. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights to submit an interim report to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the Special Rapporteur receives the necessary staffing and financial and material resources to enable him to discharge his mandate;

21. *Decides* to consider the question of the elimination of all forms of religious intolerance at its fifty-first session under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

99th plenary meeting
22 December 1995

50/184. Right to development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the Declaration on the Right to Development,[178] which it proclaimed at its forty-first session,

Recalling its resolutions 45/97 of 14 December 1990, 46/123 of 17 December 1991, 47/123 of 18 December 1992, 48/130 of 20 December 1993 and 49/183 of 23 December 1994 and those of the Commission on Human Rights relating to the right to development, and taking note of Commission resolution 1995/17 of 24 February 1995,[38]

Recalling also the report on the Global Consultation on the Realization of the Right to Development as a Human Right,[179]

Recalling further the principles proclaimed in the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development of 14 June 1992,[180]

Mindful that the Commission on Human Rights continues to consider this matter, which is directed towards the implementation and further enhancement of the right to development,

Noting the need for coordination and cooperation throughout the United Nations system for a more effective promotion of the right to development,

Recognizing that the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Centre for Human Rights of the Secretariat have important roles to play in the promotion and protection of the right to development,

Reaffirming the need for action at the national and international levels by all States to realize all human rights, and the need for relevant evaluation mechanisms to ensure the promotion, encouragement and reinforcement of the principles contained in the Declaration on the Right to Development,

Welcoming the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[3] which reaffirms the right to development as a universal and inalienable right and an integral part of all fundamental human rights and reaffirms that the human person is the central subject of development,

Recalling that the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action examined the relationship between democracy, development and human rights, and recognizing the importance of creating a favourable environment in which everyone may enjoy their human rights as set out in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,

Recalling also that lasting progress towards the implementation of the right to development requires effective development policies at the national level, as well as equitable economic relations and a favourable economic environment at the international level,

Recalling further that, in order to promote development, equal attention and urgent consideration should be given to the implementation, promotion and protection of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, and recognizing that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated and that the universality, objectivity, impartiality and non-selectivity of the consideration of human rights issues must be ensured,

Noting that aspects of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,[59] the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development, adopted by the World Summit on 12 March 1995,[60] and the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action, adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women on 15 September 1995,[128] are relevant to the universal realization of the right to development,

Welcoming the convening of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) in 1996, and affirming that this Conference constitutes another important international step towards the realization of the right to development, within the context of promoting and protecting all human rights,

Taking note of the work of the Working Group on the Right to Development during its fourth[181] and fifth[182] sessions, held at Geneva from 15 to 26 May and from 27 September to 6 October 1995,

Having considered the note by the Secretary-General,[183] prepared pursuant to General Assembly resolution 49/183,

1. *Reaffirms* the importance of the right to development for every human person and all peoples in all countries, in particular the developing countries, as an integral part of fundamental human rights;

2. *Takes note* of the note by the Secretary-General;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-second session a report on the implementation of Commission resolution 1995/17;

4. *Calls upon* the Commission on Human Rights to consider carefully the reports of the Working Group on the

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[178] Resolution 41/128, annex.

[179] E/CN.4/1990/9/Rev.1.

[180] See *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992* (A/CONF.151/26/Rev.1 (Vol. I and Vol. I/Corr.1, Vol. II, Vol. III and Vol. III/Corr.1)) (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex I.

[181] See E/CN.4/1996/10.

[182] See E/CN.4/1996/24.

[183] A/50/729.

Right to Development, to assess whether the Working Group has been able to complete its mandate and to consider thoroughly the necessity to reconvene the Working Group;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue coordination of the various activities with regard to the implementation of the Declaration on the Right to Development;

6. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to ask the Centre for Human Rights of the Secretariat to provide a programmatic follow-up on the implementation of the Declaration on the Right to Development, as part of the efforts to implement the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action;

7. *Requests* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, within his mandate, to continue to take steps for the promotion and protection of the right to development by, *inter alia*, working in conjunction with the Centre for Human Rights and drawing on the expertise of the funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system related to the field of development;

8. *Supports* the current initiatives of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, within his mandate, to consult with all relevant bodies, funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system on how they may promote the right to development;

9. *Invites* the regional commissions and regional intergovernmental organizations to consider how they may contribute to the realization of the right to development, including through convening meetings of governmental experts and representative non-governmental and grassroots organizations for the purpose of seeking arrangements or agreements for the implementation of the Declaration on the Right to Development through international cooperation;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to inform the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-second session and the General Assembly at its fifty-first session of the activities of the organizations, funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system for the implementation of the Declaration on the Right to Development;

11. *Calls upon* the Commission on Human Rights to continue to make proposals to the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council, on the future course of action on the question, in particular on practical measures for the implementation and enhancement of the Declaration on the Right to Development, taking into account the conclusions and recommendations of the Global Consultation on the Realization of the Right to Development as a Human Right and the reports of the Working Group on the Right to Development;

12. *Reiterates its commitment* to implementing the results of the World Conference on Human Rights, which reaffirm that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated and that democracy, development and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms are interdependent and mutually reinforcing;

13. *Calls upon* all States to address, within the declarations and programmes of action adopted by the relevant international conferences convened by the United Nations, the elements for the promotion and protection of the principles of the right to development, as set out in the Declaration on the Right to Development;

14. *Decides* to consider this question at its fifty-first session under the sub-item entitled "Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms".

99th plenary meeting
22 December 1995

50/185. Strengthening the role of the United Nations in enhancing the effectiveness of the principle of periodic and genuine elections and the promotion of democratization

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions on the subject, especially resolutions 48/131 of 20 December 1993 and 49/190 of 23 December 1994,

Recalling also the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[3] especially the recognition therein that assistance provided upon the request of Governments for the conduct of free and fair elections, including assistance in the human rights aspects of elections and public information about elections, is of particular importance in the strengthening and building of institutions relating to human rights and the strengthening of a pluralistic civil society, and that special emphasis should be given to measures that assist in achieving those goals,[184]

Reaffirming that electoral assistance and support for the promotion of democratization are provided only at the specific request of the Member State concerned,

Recognizing the usefulness of a comprehensive and balanced approach in the activities carried out by the United Nations in this field in order to contribute to the strengthening of both democracy and human rights within the country concerned,

Welcoming the support provided by States to the electoral assistance activities of the United Nations, *inter alia*, through the provision of experts and electoral observers, as well as through contributions to the United Nations Trust Fund for Electoral Observation,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on enhancing the effectiveness of the principle of periodic and genuine elections,[185]

Noting the continuing high level and evolving nature of requests for electoral assistance by Member States,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on United Nations activities aimed at enhancing the effectiveness of the principle of periodic and genuine elections;[185]

2. *Commends* the electoral assistance provided to Member States at their request by the United Nations, requests that such assistance continue on a case-by-case basis in accordance with the guidelines on electoral assistance, recognizing that the fundamental responsibility of organizing free and fair elections lies with Governments, and also requests the Electoral Assistance Division of the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat to continue to inform Member States on a regular basis about the requests received, responses given to those requests and the nature of the assistance provided;

3. *Requests* that the United Nations continue its efforts to ensure, before undertaking to provide electoral assist-

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[184] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III, sect. II, para. 67.
[185] A/50/736.

ance to a requesting State, that there is adequate time to organize and carry out an effective mission for providing such assistance, that conditions exist to allow a free and fair election and that provisions can be made for adequate and comprehensive reporting of the results of the mission;

4. *Commends* the steps taken by the United Nations to ensure the continuation and consolidation of the democratization process in certain Member States requesting assistance, including the provision of assistance before and after elections have taken place and needs-assessment missions aimed at recommending programmes which might contribute to the consolidating of the democratization process, and requests that such efforts be strengthened;

5. *Recommends* that the Electoral Assistance Division provide post-election assistance, as appropriate, to requesting States and electoral institutions, in order to contribute to the stability and continuity of their electoral processes, as provided for in the report of the Secretary-General, and that it study, in cooperation with relevant United Nations offices, ways of defining more clearly the activities related to democratic consolidation which the United Nations might usefully undertake in assisting the efforts of interested States in this regard;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take further steps to support States which request assistance by, *inter alia*, enabling the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in accordance with his mandate and through the Centre for Human Rights of the Secretariat, to support democratization activities related to human rights concerns, including human rights training and education, assistance for human rights–related legislative reform, strengthening and reform of the judiciary, assistance to national human rights institutions and advisory services on treaty accession, reporting and international obligations as related to human rights;

7. *Commends* the programmes of assistance carried out by the United Nations Development Programme for civil service reform and for governance, especially those for strengthening participation and linkages between concerned sectors of society and Governments;

8. Recalls the establishment by the Secretary-General of the United Nations Trust Fund for Electoral Observation, and calls upon Member States to consider contributing to the Fund;

9. *Stresses* the importance of coordination within the United Nations system, including cooperation with the Centre for Human Rights, the Department for Development Support and Management Services of the Secretariat and the United Nations Development Programme, which provide advisory services and technical assistance to requesting Member States, and encourages the Electoral Assistance Division to strengthen its collaboration with the Centre, including through an exchange of personnel when appropriate, and with the Department and the Programme and to continue to inform them of requests submitted in the area of electoral assistance;

10. *Notes with appreciation* additional efforts being made to enhance cooperation with other international, governmental and non-governmental organizations in order to facilitate more comprehensive and need-specific responses to requests for electoral assistance;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Electoral Assistance Division with adequate human and financial resources, under the regular budget of the Organization and within existing resources, to allow it to carry out its mandate, and to continue to ensure that the Centre for Human Rights is able to respond, within its mandate and in close coordination with the Electoral Assistance Division, to the increasing number of requests from Member States for advisory services;

12. *Notes* the evolution in the nature of requests for assistance and the growing need for specific types of expert assistance aimed at supporting and strengthening the existing capability of the requesting Government, in particular through enhancing the capacity of electoral institutions;

13. *Recommends* that the Secretary-General consider ways to continue to improve coordination and to strengthen further the efforts of the Electoral Assistance Division, the Centre for Human Rights and the United Nations system in general to respond to its increased and evolving responsibilities and enlarged mandate in the field of electoral assistance and democratization as reflected in the present resolution, and to include his recommendations in this regard in his report to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session;

14. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session on the implementation of resolution 49/190 and the present resolution, in particular on the status of requests from Member States for electoral assistance and verification, and on his efforts to enhance the Organization's support of the democratization process in Member States.

99th plenary meeting
22 December 1995

50/186. Human rights and terrorism

The General Assembly,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[5] the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations[186] and the International Covenants on Human Rights,[22]

Bearing in mind the Declaration on the Occasion of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the United Nations,[187]

Taking into account the fact that acts of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations aimed at the destruction of human rights have continued despite national and international efforts,

Bearing in mind that the most essential and basic human right is the right to life,

Bearing in mind also that terrorism creates an environment that destroys the freedom from fear of the people,

Recalling the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[3]

Recalling also its resolutions 48/122 of 20 December 1993 and 49/185 of 23 December 1994,

Taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1995/43 of 3 March 1995,[38]

Reiterating that all States have an obligation to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms, and also that every individual should strive to secure their universal and effective recognition and observance,

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[186] Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

[187] See resolution 50/6.

Seriously concerned at the gross violations of human rights perpetrated by terrorist groups,

Profoundly deploring the increasing number of innocent persons, including women, children and the elderly, killed, massacred and maimed by terrorists in indiscriminate and random acts of violence and terror, which cannot be justified under any circumstances,

Noting with great concern the growing connection between the terrorist groups and other criminal organizations engaged in the illegal traffic in arms and drugs at the national and international levels, as well as the consequent commission of serious crimes such as murder, extortion, kidnapping, assault, taking of hostages and robbery,

Mindful of the need to protect human rights of and guarantees for the individual in accordance with the relevant international human rights principles and instruments, particularly the right to life,

Reaffirming that all measures to counter terrorism must be in strict conformity with international human rights standards,

1. *Expresses its solidarity* with the victims of terrorism;

2. *Reiterates its unequivocal condemnation* of the acts, methods and practices of terrorism as activities aimed at the destruction of human rights, fundamental freedoms and democracy, threatening the territorial integrity and security of States, destabilizing legitimately constituted Governments, undermining pluralistic civil society and having adverse consequences on the economic and social development of States;

3. *Calls upon* States to take all necessary and effective measures in accordance with international standards of human rights to prevent, combat and eliminate all acts of terrorism wherever and by whomever committed;

4. *Urges* the international community to enhance cooperation at regional and international levels in the fight against terrorism in accordance with relevant international instruments, including those relating to human rights, with the aim of its eradication;

5. *Condemns* incitement of ethnic hatred, violence and terrorism;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to seek the views of Member States on the possible establishment of a United Nations voluntary fund for victims of terrorism, as well as ways and means to rehabilitate the victims of terrorism and to reintegrate them into society, and to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session, for its consideration, a report containing comments made by Member States on the subject;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to transmit the text of the present resolution to all Member States and to competent specialized agencies and intergovernmental organizations for their consideration;

8. *Encourages* special rapporteurs, special representatives and working groups of the Commission on Human Rights, as well as treaty bodies, to pay appropriate attention, within their mandates, to the consequences of the acts, methods and practices of terrorist groups;

9. *Decides* to consider this question at its fifty-second session under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

99th plenary meeting
22 December 1995

50/187. Strengthening of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights/ Centre for Human Rights

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 44/135 of 15 December 1989, 45/180 of 21 December 1990, 46/111 and 46/118 of 17 December 1991, 47/127 of 18 December 1992, 48/129 and 48/141 of 20 December 1993 and 49/195 of 23 December 1994, and bearing in mind all relevant resolutions of the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on Human Rights,

Considering that the promotion of universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms is one of the basic purposes of the United Nations enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and a priority activity of the Organization,

Taking into account the fact that in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, the World Conference on Human Rights, held at Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993, concerned by the growing disparity between the activities of the Centre for Human Rights of the Secretariat and the human, financial and other resources available to carry them out, and bearing in mind the resources needed for other important United Nations programmes, requested the Secretary-General and the General Assembly to take immediate steps to increase substantially the resources for the human rights programme, from within the existing and future regular budgets of the United Nations, and to take urgent steps to seek increased extrabudgetary resources,[188]

Noting that in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, the World Conference on Human Rights stressed the importance of strengthening the Centre,[189]

Taking into account the establishment of the post of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, as well as the mandate for the post, including its coordinating role and its overall supervision of the Centre, as well as the request by the General Assembly in resolution 48/141 for appropriate staff and resources to enable the High Commissioner to fulfil his mandate,

Noting with concern that the response to these requests has not been commensurate with the needs, resulting in a serious imbalance between the mandates assigned to the High Commissioner and the Centre by the competent bodies of the United Nations system in the field of human rights and the resources available to fulfil all of these mandates,

Taking into account the fact that, in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, the World Conference on Human Rights urged all United Nations organs, bodies and the specialized agencies whose activities deal with human rights to cooperate in order to strengthen, rationalize and streamline their activities, taking into account the need to avoid unnecessary duplication,[190]

Noting that the High Commissioner and the Centre are a unity whereby the High Commissioner, in accordance with resolution 48/141, sets the policy directions and the priority of action and the Centre implements those policies under the direction of the head of the Centre, the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights,

Taking into account the fact that the responsibilities of the High Commissioner include, *inter alia*, engaging in a dialogue with all Governments in the implementation of his mandate with a view to the promotion and protection of all human rights, and rationalizing, adapting, strengthening and streamlining the United Nations machinery in the field of human rights with a view to improving its efficiency and effectiveness,

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[188] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III, sect. II, para. 9.

[189] Ibid., para. 13.

[190] Ibid., para. 1.

Acknowledging that, while further improvement in the functioning and efficiency of the Centre, together with a strong emphasis on good management practices, is needed in order to enable the Centre to cope with its constantly increasing workload, good management practices need to be complemented by additional resources commensurate with additional mandates,

Taking note of the information provided by the High Commissioner with regard to the ongoing process aimed at increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of the Centre, and bearing in mind, in this context, the request of the Commission on Human Rights in its resolution 1995/93 of 10 March 1995[38] to the Secretary-General to convene, at least twice a year at Geneva, meetings with all interested States to provide information on the activities conducted by the Centre and its process of restructuring,

Recognizing that this process should contribute to the strengthening of the functional framework for integrated and consolidated activities of the Secretariat in the field of human rights,

Recalling that in its report to the Special Commission of the Economic and Social Council,[191] the Commission on Human Rights reaffirmed that the paramount consideration in the employment of staff at every level was the need for the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity, and that it was convinced that that was compatible with the principle of equitable geographical distribution, and bearing in mind Article 101, paragraph 3, of the Charter of the United Nations,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the strengthening of the Centre for Human Rights of the Secretariat[192] and the note by the Secretary-General on the geographical composition and functions of the staff of the Centre,[193] as well as the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights,[194]

1. *Supports and encourages* the efforts of the Secretary-General to enhance the role and further improve the functioning of the Centre for Human Rights of the Secretariat, under the overall supervision of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights;

2. *Reiterates* the need to ensure that all the necessary human, financial, material and personnel resources are provided without delay to the High Commissioner and the Centre to enable them to carry out efficiently, effectively and expeditiously the mandates assigned to them;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make available additional human and financial resources, within the overall regular budget of the United Nations, to enhance the capability of the High Commissioner and of the Centre to fulfil effectively their respective mandates and their ability to carry out mandated operational activities and to coordinate efficiently with other relevant departments of the Secretariat, as well as other organs, bodies and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, including on logistical and administrative questions, having due regard to the need to finance and implement activities of the United Nations related to development;

4. *Supports fully* the High Commissioner in his efforts to strengthen the human rights activities of the United Nations, *inter alia*, through measures aimed at restructuring the Centre to improve its efficiency and effectiveness;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit an interim report to the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-second session and a final report to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session on the strengthening of the human rights programme and on the measures taken to implement the present resolution.

99th plenary meeting
22 December 1995

50/188. Situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran

The General Assembly,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[5] and the International Covenants on Human Rights,[22]

Recalling the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,[3] as endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 48/121 of 20 December 1993, in particular section I, paragraph 1, in which the World Conference on Human Rights reaffirmed, *inter alia*, that human rights and fundamental freedoms were the birthright of all human beings and that their protection and promotion was the first responsibility of Governments,

Reaffirming that all Member States have a duty to fulfil the obligations they have undertaken under the various international instruments in this field,

Mindful that the Islamic Republic of Iran is a party to the International Covenants on Human Rights,

Recalling Commission on Human Rights resolution 1984/54 of 14 March 1984,[27] in which the Commission requested its Chairman to appoint a special representative to make a thorough study of the human rights situation in the Islamic Republic of Iran, based on such information as the special representative might deem relevant, including comments and material provided by the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran,

Noting the appointment by the Chairman of the Commission on Human Rights of Mr. Maurice Danby Copithorne as Special Representative of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran, and paying tribute to his predecessor Mr. Reinaldo Galindo Pohl,

Recalling its previous resolutions expressing concern at the violations of human rights by the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, including the most recent, resolution 49/202 of 23 December 1994, and the resolutions of the Commission on Human Rights, including the most recent, resolution 1995/68 of 8 March 1995,[38] and those of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, including the most recent, resolution 1995/18 of 24 August 1995,[195]

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[191] E/CN.4/1988/85 and Corr.1.

[192] A/50/678.

[193] A/50/682.

[194] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 36* (A/50/36).

[195] See E/CN.4/1996/2-E/CN.4/Sub.2/1995/51.

Reaffirming that Governments are accountable for assassinations and attacks by their agents against persons in the territory of another State, as well as for the incitement, approval or wilful condoning of such acts,

Noting that in the view of the Special Representative the significant number of communications received by the Centre for Human Rights of the Secretariat for the attention of the Special Representative and the important concerns reflected therein will need careful scrutiny,

Welcoming the announcement by the Special Representative that he has been invited to visit the Islamic Republic of Iran and the high priority given by the Special Representative to visiting the country,

Noting the stated readiness of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to invite the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on religious intolerance and the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on freedom of expression to visit the Islamic Republic of Iran,

Noting also the concluding observations of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on the human rights situation in the Islamic Republic of Iran,

Noting further that the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, in its resolution 1995/18, condemned the flagrant violations of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran,

Taking note of the interim report of the Special Representative of 20 October 1995,[196] and his intention to present a substantive report to the Commission on Human Rights,

Taking into account the reports of the former Special Representative, including his report of 16 January 1995,[197]

Considering that continued international scrutiny of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the Islamic Republic of Iran is warranted and that the subject should remain on the agenda of the General Assembly,

1. *Expresses its concern* at violations of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran, in particular the high number of executions, cases of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, the failure to meet international standards with regard to the administration of justice, the absence of guarantees of due process of law, the discriminatory treatment of minorities by reason of their religious beliefs, notably the Baha'is, whose existence as a viable religious community in the Islamic Republic of Iran is threatened, lack of adequate protection for the Christian minorities, some members of which have been the target of intimidation and assassinations, excessive force in suppressing demonstrations, restrictions on the freedom of expression, thought, opinion and the press and widespread discrimination against women;

2. *Urges* the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, as a State party to the International Covenants on Human Rights, to abide by its obligations freely undertaken under the Covenants and under other international instruments on human rights and to ensure that all individuals within its territory and subject to its jurisdiction, including religious groups, enjoy the rights recognized in those instruments;

3. *Calls upon* the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to implement existing agreements with international humanitarian organizations;

4. *Also calls upon* the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to take the necessary steps so that the visit of the Special Representative of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran can take place as soon as possible and without conditions;

5. *Expresses its grave concern* that there are continuing threats to the life of Mr. Salman Rushdie, as well as to individuals associated with his work, which appear to have the support of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran;

6. *Urges* the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to refrain from activities against members of the Iranian opposition living abroad and to cooperate wholeheartedly with the authorities of other countries in investigating and punishing offences reported by them;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to give all necessary assistance to the Special Representative to enable him to discharge his mandate fully;

8. *Decides* to continue the examination of the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran, including the situation of minority groups such as the Baha'is, during its fifty-first session under the item entitled "Human rights questions", on the basis of the report of the Special Representative and in the light of additional elements provided by the Commission on Human Rights and the Economic and Social Council.

99th plenary meeting
22 December 1995

50/189. Situation of human rights in Afghanistan

The General Assembly,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[5] the International Covenants on Human Rights[22] and accepted humanitarian rules, as set out in the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949[107] and the Additional Protocols thereto, of 1977,[108]

Reaffirming that all Member States have an obligation to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms and to fulfil the obligations they have freely undertaken under the various international instruments,

Recalling all its relevant resolutions, as well as the resolutions of the Commission on Human Rights and the decisions of the Economic and Social Council,

Taking note in particular of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1995/74 of 8 March 1995,[38] in which the Commission decided to extend the mandate of its Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Afghanistan for one year and requested him to consider submitting a report to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session, and of Economic and Social Council decision 1995/285 of 25 July 1995, in which the Council approved the Commission's decision,

Noting that armed confrontation persists in certain parts of the territory of Afghanistan,

Aware that peace and security in Afghanistan are conducive to the full restoration of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, the voluntary return of refugees to their homeland in safety and dignity, the clearance of minefields in many parts of the country and the reconstruction and rehabilitation of Afghanistan,

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[196] See A/50/661.

[197] E/CN.4/1995/55.

Deeply concerned at reports of human rights abuses and violations of humanitarian law and human rights, including the rights to life, liberty and security of person and to freedom of opinion, expression and association,

Concerned in particular at reports of abuses and violations of the human rights of women, including acts of violence and denial of access to primary and basic education, training and employment, affecting their effective participation in political and cultural life throughout the country,

Concerned that a unified judicial system cannot be established throughout the country under the prevailing circumstances,

Commending the activities carried out for the welfare of the Afghan people by various agencies and programmes of the United Nations and by the International Committee of the Red Cross and other humanitarian organizations,

Noting with satisfaction that the voluntary repatriation of the Afghan refugees has resumed,

Taking note with appreciation of the interim report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Afghanistan,[198] of the conclusions and recommendations contained therein and of the translation of previous reports into the Dari and Pashtu languages,

1. *Welcomes* the cooperation that the Government and local authorities in Afghanistan have extended to the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Afghanistan and to humanitarian agencies;

2. *Urges* all the Afghan parties to work with the United Nations Special Mission to Afghanistan with a view to achieving a comprehensive political solution leading to the cessation of armed confrontation and the eventual establishment of a democratic Government elected through free and fair elections based on the right to self-determination of the people of Afghanistan;

3. *Recognizes* that the promotion and protection of human rights should be an essential element in the achievement of a comprehensive solution to the crisis in Afghanistan, and therefore invites the Special Mission and the Special Rapporteur to exchange relevant information and to consult and cooperate with each other;

4. *Also urges* all the Afghan parties to respect accepted humanitarian rules and all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the rights of women and children, and calls upon the Afghan authorities to take measures to ensure the effective participation of women in social, political and cultural life throughout the country;

5. *Calls* for the unconditional and simultaneous release of all prisoners of war, wherever they may be held, including former Soviet prisoners of war, and for the tracing of the many Afghans still missing as a result of the war;

6. *Calls upon* the Afghan authorities to investigate thoroughly the fate of those persons who have disappeared during the conflict, to apply the amnesty decree issued in 1992 by the Transitional Islamic State of Afghanistan in a strictly non-discriminatory manner, to reduce the period during which prisoners await trial and to treat all suspected, convicted or detained persons according to relevant international instruments;

7. *Urges* the Afghan authorities to provide sufficient and effective remedies to the victims of grave violations of human rights and accepted humanitarian rules and to bring their perpetrators to trial in accordance with internationally accepted standards;

8. *Appeals* to Member States and to the international community to continue to provide adequate humanitarian assistance to the people of Afghanistan and to the Afghan refugees in the neighbouring countries, pending their voluntary repatriation according to relevant international instruments, in particular through the support of activities such as mine detection and clearance and repatriation projects undertaken by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the Coordinator for Humanitarian and Economic Assistance Programmes Relating to Afghanistan as well as by United Nations agencies or non-governmental humanitarian organizations;

9. *Strongly urges* all parties to the conflict to take all necessary measures to ensure the safety of all personnel of humanitarian organizations and representatives of the media in Afghanistan;

10. *Invites* the United Nations to offer, upon the request of the Afghan authorities and with due regard for Afghan tradition, advisory services and technical assistance concerning the drafting of a constitution, which should embody internationally accepted human rights principles, and the holding of direct elections;

11. *Encourages* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to study, with the contribution of its competent committees, appropriate ways and means to restore the Afghan system of education and the Afghan cultural heritage, in particular the restoration of the Kabul Museum;

12. *Urges* the Afghan authorities to continue to extend their full cooperation to the Commission on Human Rights and its Special Rapporteur;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to give all necessary assistance to the Special Rapporteur;

14. *Decides* to keep the situation of human rights in Afghanistan under consideration at its fifty-first session, in the light of additional elements provided by the Commission on Human Rights and the Economic and Social Council.

99th plenary meeting
22 December 1995

50/190. Situation of human rights in Kosovo

The General Assembly,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[5] the International Covenants on Human Rights,[22] the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[6] the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide[199] and the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,[135]

Welcoming the General Framework Agreement for

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[198] See A/50/567.

[199] Resolution 260 A (III).

Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina[200] reached on 21 November 1995 at Dayton, Ohio, and hoping that it will have a positive impact also on the human rights situation in Kosovo,

Recalling its resolution 49/204 of 23 December 1994 and other relevant resolutions,

Taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1995/89 of 8 March 1995[38] and recalling previous Commission resolutions 1992/S-1/1 of 14 August 1992,[201] 1992/S-2/1 of 1 December 1992,[202] 1993/7 of 23 February 1993[36] and 1994/76 of 9 March 1994,[37]

Taking note also of the reports of the Special Rapporteurs of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in the territory of the former Yugoslavia, in which they describe the situation in Kosovo, the various discriminatory measures taken in the legislative, administrative and judicial areas, acts of violence and arbitrary arrests perpetrated against ethnic Albanians in Kosovo and the continuing deterioration of the human rights situation in Kosovo, including:

(*a*) Police brutality against ethnic Albanians, the killing of ethnic Albanians resulting from such violence, arbitrary searches, seizures and arrests, forced evictions, torture and ill-treatment of detainees and discrimination in the administration of justice, including the recent trials of ethnic Albanian former policemen;

(*b*) Discriminatory and arbitrary dismissals of ethnic Albanian civil servants, notably from the ranks of the police and the judiciary, mass dismissals of ethnic Albanians, confiscation and expropriation of their properties, discrimination against ethnic Albanian pupils and teachers, the closing of Albanian-language secondary schools and the university, as well as the closing of all Albanian cultural and scientific institutions;

(*c*) The harassment and persecution of political parties and associations of ethnic Albanians and their leaders and activities, their maltreatment and imprisonment;

(*d*) The intimidation and imprisonment of ethnic Albanian journalists and the systematic harassment and disruption of the news media in the Albanian language;

(*e*) The dismissals from clinics and hospitals of doctors and members of other categories of the medical profession of Albanian origin;

(*f*) The elimination in practice of the Albanian language, particularly in public administration and services;

(*g*) The serious and massive occurrence of discriminatory and repressive practices aimed at ethnic Albanians in Kosovo, as a whole, resulting in widespread involuntary migration;

and noting that the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, in its resolutions 1993/9 of 20 August 1993[203] and 1995/10 of 18 August 1995,[204] considered that those measures and practices constituted a form of ethnic cleansing,

Concerned at any attempt to use Serb refugees and other means to alter the ethnic balance in Kosovo, thus further suppressing the enjoyment of human rights there, and, in this context, noting with concern the new citizenship law awaiting approval by the Parliament of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro),

Reaffirming that the long-term mission of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to Kosovo played a positive role in monitoring the human rights situation and in preventing an escalation of conflict there, and recalling in this context Security Council resolution 855 (1993) of 9 August 1993,

Considering that the re-establishment of the international presence in Kosovo to monitor and investigate the situation of human rights is of great importance in preventing the situation in Kosovo from deteriorating into violent conflict, and, in this context, taking note of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to General Assembly resolution 49/204,[205]

1. *Strongly condemns* the measures and practices of discrimination and the violations of the human rights of ethnic Albanians in Kosovo committed by the authorities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro);

2. *Condemns* the large-scale repression by the police and military of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) against the defenceless ethnic Albanian population and the discrimination against the ethnic Albanians in the administrative and judiciary branches of government, education, health care and employment, aimed at forcing ethnic Albanians to leave;

3. *Urgently demands* that the authorities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro):

(*a*) Take all necessary measures to bring to an immediate end all human rights violations against ethnic Albanians in Kosovo, including, in particular, the discriminatory measures and practices, arbitrary searches and detention, the violation of the right to a fair trial and the practice of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, and to revoke all discriminatory legislation, in particular that which has entered into force since 1989;

(*b*) Release all political prisoners and cease the persecution of political leaders and members of local human rights organizations;

(*c*) Allow the establishment of genuine democratic institutions in Kosovo, including the parliament and the judiciary, and respect the will of its inhabitants as the best means of preventing the escalation of the conflict there;

(*d*) Abrogate the official settlement policy as far as it is conducive to the heightening of ethnic tensions in Kosovo;

(*e*) Reopen the cultural and scientific institutions of the ethnic Albanians;

(*f*) Pursue dialogue with the representatives of ethnic Albanians in Kosovo, including under the auspices of the International Conference on the Former Yugoslavia;

4. *Demands once again* that the authorities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) cooperate fully and immediately with the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in the territory of the former Yugoslavia in the discharge of her functions, as requested by the Com-

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[200] See A/50/790-S/1995/999; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fiftieth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1995*, document S/1995/999.

[201] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1992, Supplement No. 2A* (E/1992/22/Add.1/Rev.1), chap.II., sect. A.

[202] Ibid., *Supplement No. 2B* (E/1992/22/Add.2), chap. II, sect. A.

[203] See E/CN.4/1994/2-E/CN.4/Sub.2/1993/45 and Corr.1, chap. II, sect. A.

[204] See E/CN.4/1996/2-E/CN.4/Sub.2/1995/51, chap. II, sect. A.

[205] A/50/767.

mission in its resolution 1994/76 and in other relevant resolutions;

5. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to pursue his humanitarian efforts in the former Yugoslavia, in liaison with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the United Nations Children's Fund and other appropriate humanitarian organizations, with a view to taking urgent practical steps to tackle the critical needs of the people in Kosovo, especially of the most vulnerable groups affected by the conflict, and to assist in the voluntary return of displaced persons to their homes;

6. *Urges* the authorities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) to allow the immediate unconditional return of the long-term mission of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to Kosovo, called for in Security Council resolution 855 (1993);

7. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to General Assembly resolution 49/204;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to seek ways and means, including through consultations with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and relevant regional organizations, to establish an adequate international monitoring presence in Kosovo and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session;

9. *Emphasizes* the importance of laws and regulations concerning citizenship applied by the authorities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) being in accordance with the standards and principles of non-discrimination, equal protection before the law and the reduction and avoidance of statelessness, as set out in the relevant international human rights instruments;

10. *Calls upon* the Special Rapporteur to continue to monitor closely the situation of human rights in Kosovo and to continue to pay due attention to this matter in her reporting;

11. *Decides* to continue examination of the human rights situation in Kosovo at its fifty-first session under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

99th plenary meeting
22 December 1995

50/191. Situation of human rights in Iraq

The General Assembly,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[5] and the International Covenants on Human Rights,[22]

Reaffirming that all Member States have an obligation to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms and the duty to fulfil the obligations they have undertaken under the various international instruments in this field,

Mindful that Iraq is a party to the International Covenants on Human Rights and to other international human rights instruments,

Recalling its resolution 49/203 of 23 December 1994, in which it expressed its strong condemnation of the massive violations of human rights of the gravest nature in Iraq,

Recalling also Commission on Human Rights resolution 1991/74 of 6 March 1991,[34] by which the Commission requested its Chairman to appoint a special rapporteur to make a thorough study of the violations of human rights by the Government of Iraq, based on all information the special rapporteur might deem relevant, including information provided by intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and any comments and material provided by the Government of Iraq,

Recalling further the pertinent resolutions of the Commission on Human Rights condemning the flagrant violations of human rights by the Government of Iraq, including its most recent, resolution 1995/76 of 8 March 1995,[38] by which the Commission extended the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Iraq for a further year and requested him to submit an interim report to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session and a final report to the Commission at its fifty-second session,

Bearing in mind Security Council resolution 688 (1991) of 5 April 1991, in which the Council demanded an end to the repression of the Iraqi civilian population and insisted that Iraq cooperate with humanitarian organizations and ensure that the human and political rights of all Iraqi citizens were respected,

Recalling Security Council resolutions 687 (1991) of 3 April 1991, 706 (1991) of 15 August 1991, 712 (1991) of 19 September 1991 and 778 (1992) of 2 October 1992,

Recalling also Security Council resolution 986 (1995) of 14 April 1995, by which the Council authorized States to permit imports of Iraqi oil up to the amount of one billion United States dollars every ninety days, on a renewable basis, to be used to purchase essential food and medical supplies for humanitarian purposes,

Deeply concerned by the persisting massive and grave violations of human rights by the Government of Iraq, regarding which there are no signs of improvement, such as summary and arbitrary executions, the enactment and implementation of decrees prescribing cruel and inhuman punishments, torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, arbitrary arrests and detentions, lack of due process, non-respect for the rule of law and the suppression of freedom of thought, expression and association, as well as the persistence of specific discrimination within the country as regards access to food and health care, which amounts to a violation of the economic and social rights of Iraqis,

Deeply disturbed by the observation by the Special Rapporteur that Iraqi armed forces have continued their attacks on the farming communities throughout the region adjoining northern Iraq and in the south of the country, resulting in the destruction of their crops and livestock,

Deeply disturbed also by reports about the climate of oppression and the dire economic and social situation in the south of Iraq,

Noting the responsibility of the Iraqi authorities with regard to persons missing and detained as a result of the Iraqi occupation of Kuwait, and also noting that Iraq has recently renewed its participation in the Tripartite Commission established pursuant to the cease-fire agreement of 1991,

Deploring the refusal of the Government of Iraq to cooperate with the United Nations human rights mechanisms, in particular by receiving a return visit of the Special Rapporteur to Iraq and allowing the stationing of human rights monitors throughout Iraq pursuant to the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the interim report on the situation of human rights in Iraq[206] submitted by the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Iraq and the observations, conclusions and recommendations contained therein;

2. *Expresses its strong condemnation* of the massive and extremely grave violations of human rights for which the Government of Iraq is responsible, resulting in an all-pervasive order of repression and oppression which is sustained by broad-based discrimination and widespread terror;

3. *Expresses its condemnation* with regard to the violations of human rights and international humanitarian law, in particular of:

(*a*) Summary and arbitrary executions, including political killings;

(*b*) The widespread routine practice of systematic torture in its most cruel forms;

(*c*) The enactment and implementation of decrees prescribing cruel and unusual punishment, namely mutilation, as a penalty for certain offences and the abuse and diversion of medical-care services for the purpose of such mutilations;

(*d*) Enforced or involuntary disappearances, routinely practised arbitrary arrests and detention and consistent and routine failure to respect due process and the rule of law;

(*e*) Suppression of freedom of thought, information, expression, association and assembly, through fear of arrest, imprisonment and other sanctions, including the death penalty, as well as harsh limitations to freedom of movement;

4. *Urges* the Government of Iraq to cooperate with the United Nations with a view to arranging for the export of oil in order to purchase essential food and medical supplies for humanitarian purposes, as authorized by the Security Council in its resolution 986 (1995);

5. *Strongly condemns* the continued refusal of the Government of Iraq to take advantage of resources available to alleviate the suffering of the people, which includes long-term disabilities of millions of people and the death of many thousands more;

6. *Again expresses its special alarm* at the policies of the Government of Iraq, which discriminate between regions and prevent the equitable enjoyment of basic foodstuffs and medical supplies, and calls upon Iraq, which has sole responsibility in this regard, to take steps to cooperate with international humanitarian agencies in the provision of relief to those in need throughout Iraq;

7. *Calls once again upon* Iraq, as a State party to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights[22] and to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[22] to abide by its obligations freely undertaken under the Covenants and under other international instruments on human rights, and particularly to respect and ensure the rights of all individuals, irrespective of their origin, within its territory and subject to its jurisdiction;

8. *Demands* that the Government of Iraq restore the independence of the judiciary and abrogate all laws granting impunity to specified forces or persons killing or injuring individuals for any purpose beyond the administration of justice under the rule of law as prescribed by international standards;

9. *Also demands* that the Government of Iraq abrogate any and all decrees that prescribe cruel and inhuman punishment or treatment and take every step necessary to ensure that the practice of torture and cruel and unusual punishments and treatment no longer occur;

10. *Urges* the Government of Iraq to abrogate all laws and procedures, including Revolution Command Council decree No. 840 of 4 November 1986, that penalize the free expression of competing views and ideas and to ensure that the genuine will of the people shall be the basis of authority in the State;

11. *Also urges* the Government of Iraq to improve its cooperation with the Tripartite Commission with a view to establishing the whereabouts or resolving the fate of the remaining several hundred missing persons and prisoners of war, Kuwaitis and third-country nationals victims of the illegal Iraqi occupation of Kuwait;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Special Rapporteur with all necessary assistance in carrying out his mandate and to approve the allocation of sufficient human and material resources for the sending of human rights monitors to such locations as would facilitate improved information flow and assessment and help in the independent verification of reports on the situation of human rights in Iraq;

13. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the situation of human rights in Iraq during its fifty-first session under the item entitled "Human rights questions", in the light of additional elements provided by the Commission on Human Rights and the Economic and Social Council.

99th plenary meeting
22 December 1995

50/192. Rape and abuse of women in the areas of armed conflict in the former Yugoslavia

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[5] the International Covenants on Human Rights,[22] the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide,[199] the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,[135] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[49] the Convention on the Rights of the Child[50] and other instruments of human rights and international humanitarian law, including the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949[107] and the Additional Protocols thereto, of 1977,[108]

Recalling its resolution 3074 (XXVIII) of 3 December 1973, entitled "Principles of international cooperation in the detection, arrest, extradition and punishment of persons guilty of war crimes and crimes against humanity", as well as Commission on Human Rights resolution 1994/77 of 9 March 1994,[207] entitled "Rape and abuse of women in the territory of the former Yugoslavia", General Assembly resolutions 48/143 of 20 December 1993 and 49/205 of 23 December 1994, both entitled "Rape and abuse of women in the areas of armed conflict in the former Yugoslavia", and relevant resolutions of the Commission on the Status of Women,

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[206] See A/50/734.

[207] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1994, Supplement No. 4* and corrigendum (E/1994/24 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

Reaffirming the relevant Security Council resolutions, in particular resolution 798 (1992) of 18 December 1992, in which, *inter alia*, the Council strongly condemned those acts of unspeakable brutality,

Welcoming the initialling of the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the annexes thereto[200] by the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) and other parties thereto at Dayton, Ohio, on 21 November 1995,

Noting with deep concern all reports of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in the territory of the former Yugoslavia, regarding rape and abuse of women in the territory of the former Yugoslavia, particularly in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina,

Convinced that this heinous practice constitutes a deliberate weapon of war in fulfilling the policy of ethnic cleansing carried out by Serbian forces in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and recalling General Assembly resolution 47/121 of 18 December 1992, in which the Assembly stated, *inter alia*, that the abhorrent policy of ethnic cleansing was a form of genocide,

Desirous of ensuring that persons accused of authorizing, aiding and perpetrating rape and sexual violence as a weapon of war in the areas of armed conflict in the former Yugoslavia will be brought to justice without further delay by the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991, where appropriate,

Underlining, in this context, the need for the protection of the rape victims and the provision of effective guarantees of privacy and confidentiality of the rape victims, and desirous of facilitating their participation in the proceedings of the International Tribunal and ensuring that further traumatization will be prevented,

Deeply alarmed at the situation facing victims of rape in armed conflicts in different parts of the world and any use of rape as a weapon of war, in particular in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina,

Noting with appreciation the efforts of Governments and the work of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, humanitarian organizations, and non-governmental organizations aimed at supporting the victims of rape and abuse and alleviating their suffering,

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General of 4 August 1995,[208] submitted pursuant to resolution 49/205,

1. *Strongly condemns* the abhorrent practice of rape and abuse of women and children in the areas of armed conflict in the former Yugoslavia, which constitutes a war crime;

2. *Expresses its outrage* that the systematic practice of rape has been used as a weapon of war and an instrument of ethnic cleansing against women and children in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina;

3. *Reaffirms* that rape in the conduct of armed conflict constitutes a war crime and that under certain circumstances it constitutes a crime against humanity and an act of genocide as defined in the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, and calls upon States to take all measures required for the protection of women and children from such acts and to strengthen mechanisms to investigate and punish all those responsible and bring the perpetrators to justice;

4. *Also reaffirms* that all persons who perpetrate or authorize crimes against humanity or other violations of international humanitarian law are individually responsible for those violations and that those in positions of authority who have failed to ensure that persons under their control comply with the relevant international instruments are accountable, together with the perpetrators;

5. *Reminds* all States of their obligation to cooperate with the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 and also with the Office of the Prosecutor in the investigation and prosecution of persons accused of using rape as a weapon of war;

6. *Calls upon* States to put experts, including experts in the prosecution of crimes of sexual violence, as well as adequate resources and services, at the disposal of the Chief Prosecutor and the International Tribunal;

7. *Urges* all States and relevant organizations to continue to give serious consideration to the recommendations in the reports of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in the former Yugoslavia, in particular the recommendation concerning provision for the continuation of necessary medical and psychological care to victims of rape within the framework of programmes to rehabilitate women and children traumatized by war, as well as the provision of protection, counselling and support to victims and witnesses;

8. *Recognizes* the extraordinary suffering of the victims of rape and sexual violence and the necessity for an appropriate response to provide assistance to those victims, and expresses its concern, in particular, for the welfare of those victims who are currently among the internally displaced or otherwise affected by the war and who have experienced severe trauma and require psychosocial and other assistance;

9. *Also urges* all States and all relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, as well as the United Nations Children's Fund, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the World Health Organization, to continue to provide to the victims of such rape and abuse appropriate assistance for their physical and mental rehabilitation and to extend their support to the community-based assistance programmes;

10. *Demands* that the parties cooperate fully with the International Committee of the Red Cross, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights and her staff, as well as other mechanisms of the Commission on Human Rights, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the monitoring and other missions of the European Union and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, including by providing full access;

11. *Encourages* the new Special Rapporteur to continue

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[208] A/50/329.

to pay particular attention to the use of rape as a weapon of war, particularly in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report, as appropriate, to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session on the implementation of the present resolution;

13. *Decides* to continue its consideration of this question at its fifty-first session.

99th plenary meeting
22 December 1995

50/193. Situation of human rights in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro)

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[5] the International Covenants on Human Rights,[22] the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[6] the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[50] the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide,[199] the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,[135] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[49] and other instruments of international humanitarian law, including the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949[107] for the protection of victims of war and the Additional Protocols thereto, of 1977,[108] as well as the principles and commitments undertaken by States members of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe,

Reaffirming that all Member States have an obligation to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms and to fulfil the obligations they have under the human rights instruments to which they are party, and reaffirming also the obligation of all to respect international humanitarian law,

Welcoming the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina[200] initialled by the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro), representing also the Bosnian Serb party, at Dayton, Ohio, on 21 November 1995 which commits the parties to the conflict to ending the war and starting to build peace with justice; enables Bosnia and Herzegovina to continue its legal existence as a single State within its internationally recognized borders with full respect for its sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence by its neighbours; and commits the parties in Bosnia and Herzegovina to respect fully human rights,

Welcoming also the basic agreement on the region of Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and Western Sirmium,[209] signed on 12 November 1995 by the Government of the Republic of Croatia and the local Serb representatives,

None the less gravely concerned at the human tragedy that has occurred in the territories of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) and at the massive and systematic violations of human rights and international humanitarian law,

Recalling its resolution 49/196 of 23 December 1994, Commission on Human Rights resolution 1995/89 of 8 March 1995[38] and all relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

Recalling specifically the Security Council resolutions in which the Council demanded, *inter alia*, that all parties and others concerned in the former Yugoslavia immediately cease and desist from all breaches of international humanitarian law, requested the Secretary-General to establish a commission of experts to examine and analyse information relating to serious violations of such law being committed in the territory of the former Yugoslavia, established an international tribunal for the prosecution of persons responsible for such violations and condemned in particular the unacceptable practice of ethnic cleansing perpetrated in areas of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina under the control of Bosnian Serb forces,

Recalling also additional Security Council resolutions, in particular resolutions 824 (1993) of 6 May 1993 and 836 (1993) of 4 June 1993, in which the Council declared that Sarajevo, Tuzla, Žepa, Goražde, Bihać, Srebrenica and their surroundings should be treated as safe areas, that international humanitarian agencies should be given free and unimpeded access to those areas and that there should be freedom of movement for the civilian population and humanitarian goods to, from and within the areas,

Recalling further Security Council resolution 1019 (1995) of 9 November 1995, in which the Council demanded that the Bosnian Serb party give immediate and unimpeded access to representatives of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the International Committee of the Red Cross and other international agencies to persons displaced and to persons detained or reported missing from Srebrenica, Žepa and the regions of Banja Luka and Sanski Most,

Gravely concerned at attacks and capture by the Bosnian Serbs and Croatian Serb forces of safe areas, in violation of the relevant Security Council resolutions,

Recalling Security Council resolution 1009 (1995) of 10 August 1995, in which the Council demanded that the Government of the Republic of Croatia respect fully the rights of the local Serb population, including their rights to remain, leave or return in safety, allow access to this population by international humanitarian organizations and create conditions conducive to the return of those persons who have left their homes,

Noting with appreciation the efforts of the United Nations Peace Forces to help to create the conditions for the peaceful settlement of the conflicts in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Republic of Croatia and to provide protection for the delivery of humanitarian aid and the protection of human rights, and also noting the obstacles faced by those forces in the performance of their mandates,

Acknowledging the progress made by the Bosnian Federation as a model for ethnic reconciliation in the region,

Encouraging the international community, acting through the United Nations and other international organizations as well as bilaterally, to enhance significantly humanitarian support for the people of the region and to promote human rights, economic reconstruction, the repatriation of refugees and the holding of free elections in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina,

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[209] See A/50/757-S/1995/951; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fiftieth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1995*, document S/1995/951.

Welcoming the efforts of the European Union to promote respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, and endorsing the recommendation of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in the territory of the former Yugoslavia that economic and other aid must be made conditional upon meaningful progress in human rights,

Gravely concerned at the human rights violations in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro), in particular at those committed in the context of the odious practice of ethnic cleansing, which has been the direct cause of the vast majority of human rights violations there and whose principal victims have been the Muslim population, as well as the Croats and others,

Also gravely concerned at reports, including by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, of grave violations of international humanitarian law and of human rights in and around Srebrenica, and in the areas of Banja Luka and Sanski Most, including reports of mass murder, unlawful detention and forced labour, rape and deportation of civilians,

Dismayed by the huge number of missing persons still unaccounted for, particularly in Bosnia and Herzegovina and in Croatia,

Deeply concerned by the situations reflected in the report of the Secretary-General on rape and abuse of women in the areas of armed conflict in the former Yugoslavia,[208] and stressing the need for detailed reporting on this subject,

Alarmed that the conflict in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina and in the Republic of Croatia has also been characterized by the systematic destruction and profanation of mosques, churches and other places of worship, religious buildings and sites of cultural heritage,

Expressing its particular concern for the situation of the children and the elderly as well as other vulnerable groups in the area,

Calling attention to the reports and recommendations of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the territories of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro), including the most recent report[210] by the newly appointed Special Rapporteur, Mrs. Elisabeth Rehn,

Expressing its deep appreciation for the activity and efforts of the previous Special Rapporteur, Mr. Tadeusz Mazowiecki, in the discharge of his mandate,

Noting the recommendations of the Special Rapporteur that respect for human rights should be given priority during and after the peace negotiations and that, without genuine improvements in the human rights situation in the area, any peace agreement will not have a solid foundation,

1. *Commends* both the former and the current Special Rapporteurs of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in the territory of the former Yugoslavia for their efforts, and notes that the presence of the Special Rapporteur can be a positive factor towards reducing the instances of all human rights violations in the region;

2. *Expresses its outrage* at the instances of massive and systematic violations of human rights and humanitarian law as described in the reports of the Special Rapporteur, including ethnic cleansing, killings, disappearances, torture, rape, detentions, beatings, arbitrary searches, destruction of houses, illegal evictions and other acts of violence aimed at forcing individuals from their homes;

3. *Condemns in the strongest terms* all violations of human rights and international humanitarian law by the parties to the conflict, recognizing that the leadership in territories under the control of Serbs in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina and formerly Serb-held areas of the Republic of Croatia, the commanders of Serb paramilitary forces and political and military leaders in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) bear primary responsibility for most of those violations and that persons who commit such acts will be held personally responsible and accountable;

4. *Condemns* the attacks on the safe areas of Srebrenica and Žepa by Bosnian Serb forces, which led to gross abuses of human rights and grave breaches of international humanitarian law and the disappearance of thousands of persons, as detailed in the reports of the former and the current Special Rapporteurs;

5. *Also condemns* the indiscriminate shelling of civilians in the safe areas of Sarajevo, Tuzla, Bihać and Goradže and the use of cluster bombs on civilian targets by Bosnian Serb and Croatian Serb forces;

6. *Further condemns* violations of human rights and international humanitarian law, including killings, the burning and looting of houses, the shelling of residential areas, harassment of and attacks on refugees, the elderly and the infirm perpetrated by members of the Croatian armed forces and civilians in the formerly Serb-controlled regions of Croatia during and subsequent to the military operations there in August 1995;

7. *Welcomes* the withdrawal of the heavy weapons surrounding Sarajevo following the decision to implement Security Council resolution 836 (1993), reinforced by the London conference of 21 July 1995, to respond to attacks on safe areas, and notes that this opened Sarajevo to badly needed humanitarian relief;

8. *Notes with appreciation* the efforts of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991, established pursuant to Security Council resolutions 806 (1993) of 5 February 1993 and 827 (1993) of 25 May 1993, notes the issuance of indictments against individuals, and urges that the Tribunal be given the resources it needs;

9. *Requests* States, as a matter of urgency, to continue to make available to the International Tribunal expert personnel, adequate resources and services to aid in the investigation and prosecution of persons accused of having committed serious violations of international humanitarian law;

10. *Reminds* all States of their obligation under Security Council resolution 827 (1993) to cooperate with the International Tribunal, including through compliance with requests for assistance and orders issued by a trial chamber of the Tribunal, and, in this regard, urges the parties to allow the establishment of offices of the Tribunal in their

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[210] See A/50/727-S/1995/933; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fiftieth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1995*, document S/1995/933.

territories and draws the attention of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro), the Republic of Croatia and the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina to their obligation to cooperate with the Tribunal, in particular to arrest, detain and facilitate the transfer to the custody of the Tribunal any and all indicted war criminals who reside in or transit through or are otherwise present in their respective territories;

11. *Demands* that all parties refrain from any action intended to destroy, alter, conceal or damage any evidence of violations of human rights and international humanitarian law and that they preserve such evidence;

12. *Expresses its complete support* for the victims of violations of human rights and international humanitarian law, recognizes the right of refugees and displaced persons freely to return to their homes of origin in safety and dignity, to have restored to them property of which they were deprived in the course of hostilities since 1991 and to be compensated for any such property that cannot be restored to them, considers null any commitments made under duress, and urges all parties to fulfil their agreements to this end;

13. *Condemns* all deliberate obstruction of the delivery of food and medical and other supplies essential for the civilian population, which constitutes a serious violation of international humanitarian law and international human rights law, and of medical evacuations, and demands that all parties ensure that all persons under their control cease such acts;

14. *Also condemns* all attacks on the United Nations Peace Forces and on personnel working with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and other humanitarian organizations by parties to the conflict;

15. *Expresses its outrage* that the systematic practice of rape has been used as a weapon of war against women and children and as an instrument of ethnic cleansing, and recognizes that rape in this context constitutes a war crime;

16. *Condemns* police violence against the non-Serb populations in Kosovo, the Sandjak, Vojvodina and other areas of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro), particularly the systematic acts of harassment, beatings, torture, warrantless searches, arbitrary detention and unfair trials, including those directed mainly against members of the Muslim population;

17. *Strongly urges* the authorities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) to take appropriate measures to respect fully all human rights and fundamental freedoms and to take urgent action to ensure the rule of law in order to prevent arbitrary evictions and dismissals and discrimination against any ethnic or national, religious and linguistic group, including in the fields of education and information;

18. *Cautions* against any attempts to use Serb refugees to alter the population balance in Kosovo, the Sandjak, Vojvodina and any other part of the country, thus further suppressing the enjoyment of human rights in those areas;

19. *Strongly encourages* all parties to fulfil the commitments made at Dayton, Ohio, to release without delay all civilians and combatants held in prison or detention in relation to the conflict, in conformity with international humanitarian law and the provisions of the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina,[200] and demands that the parties cooperate fully with the International Committee of the Red Cross, the Special Rapporteur and her staff, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the monitoring and other missions of the European Union and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe;

20. *Urges* Member States to consider positively the Special Rapporteur's recommendation that economic and other aid must be made conditional upon meaningful progress in human rights;

21. *Recognizes* that the Bosnian Federation should be further developed to serve as a model for ethnic reconciliation in the region;

22. *Urges* all parties, in particular the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro), to cooperate with the "special process" dealing with the problem of missing persons in the territory of the former Yugoslavia established pursuant to paragraph 24 of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1994/72 of 9 March 1994,[37] and reiterated in its resolution 1995/35 of 3 March 1995,[38] by disclosing information and documentation on inmates in prisons, camps and other places of detention;

23. *Also urges* all parties to provide full access for monitoring the human rights situation, including by allowing access to the missions of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, including in Kosovo, as called for by the General Assembly in resolution 49/196 and by the Security Council in resolution 855 (1993) of 9 August 1993, and in the Sandjak, Vojvodina and other affected areas, and requests that the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) permit the opening of a field office of the Centre for Human Rights of the Secretariat as called for by the General Assembly in resolution 49/196;

24. *Urges* the Secretary-General to take all necessary steps to ensure the full and effective coordination of the activities of all United Nations bodies in implementing the present resolution, and urges those bodies concerned with the situation in the territories of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) to coordinate closely with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Special Rapporteur and the International Tribunal, and to provide to the Special Rapporteur on a continuing basis all relevant and accurate information in their possession on the situation of human rights in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro);

25. *Draws attention* to the need for an immediate and urgent investigation by qualified experts of several mass grave sites near Srebrenica and Vukovar and other mass grave sites and places where mass killings are reported to have taken place, and requests the Secretary-General, within existing resources, to make available the necessary means for this undertaking;

26. *Also urges* the Secretary-General, within existing resources, to make all necessary resources available for the Special Rapporteur to carry out her mandate and in particular to provide her with adequate staff based in the territories of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) to ensure effective continuous monitoring of the human rights situation there and coordination with other United Nations bodies involved, including the United Nations Peace Forces;

27. *Welcomes* the effort by the Government of Bosnia

and Herzegovina to uphold human rights in its territory, and urges it to fulfil the human rights commitments it has made;

28. *Notes with concern* that many of the past recommendations of the Special Rapporteur have not been fully implemented, in some cases because of resistance by the parties on the ground, and urges the parties, all States and relevant organizations to give immediate consideration to them, in particular the calls of the former and the current Special Rapporteurs:

(*a*) For the de facto Bosnian Serb authorities to provide prompt access for humanitarian monitors to territories controlled by them, in particular to the Banja Luka region and to Srebrenica, emphasizing that the fate of thousands of missing persons from Srebrenica requires immediate clarification;

(*b*) For the Government of Croatia to fulfil its responsibilities to secure the human rights of the remaining ethnic Serb population in all recently retaken territories and to remove all legal and administrative hurdles which are preventing the return of refugees and displaced persons;

(*c*) For greater cooperation between Governments and non-governmental organizations, recognizing that the work and role of non-governmental organizations is vital to the promotion and protection of the rights of the individual and respect and protection of human rights in the region;

(*d*) For the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) to undertake measures to respect fully the rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities;

29. *Invites* the Commission on Human Rights, at its fifty-second session, to request the Special Rapporteur to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session;

30. *Decides* to continue its examination of this question at its fifty-first session under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

99th plenary meeting
22 December 1995

50/194. Situation of human rights in Myanmar

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming that all Member States have an obligation to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms as stated in the Charter of the United Nations and elaborated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[5] the International Covenants on Human Rights[22] and other applicable human rights instruments,

Aware that, in accordance with the Charter, the Organization promotes and encourages respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all and that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights states that the will of the people shall be the basis of the authority of government,

Recalling its resolution 49/197 of 23 December 1994,

Recalling also Commission on Human Rights resolution 1992/58 of 3 March 1992,[35] in which the Commission, *inter alia*, decided to nominate a special rapporteur to establish direct contacts with the Government and with the people of Myanmar, including political leaders deprived of their liberty, their families and their lawyers, with a view to examining the situation of human rights in Myanmar and following any progress made towards the transfer of power to a civilian Government and the drafting of a new constitution, the lifting of restrictions on personal freedoms and the restoration of human rights in Myanmar,

Taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1995/72 of 8 March 1995,[38] in which the Commission decided to extend for one year the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar,

Gravely concerned that the Government of Myanmar still has not implemented its commitment to take all necessary steps towards democracy in the light of the results of the elections held in 1990,

Noting the recent developments regarding the composition of the National Convention,

Welcoming the release without conditions, on 10 July 1995, of Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Aung San Suu Kyi and a number of other political prisoners, as called for by the General Assembly,

Also gravely concerned, however, at the continued violations of human rights in Myanmar, as reported by the Special Rapporteur, including killings of civilians, arbitrary arrest and detention, restrictions on freedom of expression and association, torture, forced labour, forced portering, human rights abuses in border areas in the course of military operations, forced relocations and development projects, abuse of women and the imposition of oppressive measures directed in particular at ethnic and religious minorities,

Welcoming the continuing cooperation between the Government of Myanmar and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on the voluntary repatriation of refugees from Bangladesh to Myanmar,

Noting, however, that the human rights situation in Myanmar has resulted in flows of refugees to neighbouring countries, thus creating problems for the countries concerned,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Myanmar for his interim report;[211]

2. *Also expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for his report;[212]

3. *Deplores* the continued violations of human rights in Myanmar;

4. *Welcomes* the release without conditions of Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Aung San Suu Kyi and other prominent political leaders;

5. *Strongly urges* the Government of Myanmar to release immediately and unconditionally detained political leaders and all political prisoners, to ensure their physical integrity and to permit them to participate in the process of national reconciliation;

6. *Urges* the Government of Myanmar to engage, at the earliest possible date, in a substantive political dialogue with Aung San Suu Kyi and other political leaders, including representatives of ethnic groups, as the best means of promoting national reconciliation and the full and early restoration of democracy;

7. *Welcomes* the discussions between the Government of Myanmar and the Secretary-General, and further encourages the Government of Myanmar to cooperate fully with the Secretary-General;

8. *Again urges* the Government of Myanmar, in conformity with its assurances given at various times, to take

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[211] See A/50/568.

[212] A/50/782.

all necessary steps towards the restoration of democracy in accordance with the will of the people as expressed in the democratic elections held in 1990 and to ensure that political parties can function freely;

9. *Expresses its concern* that most of the representatives duly elected in 1990 are still excluded from participating in the meetings of the National Convention, created to prepare basic elements for the drafting of a new constitution, and that one of its objectives is to maintain the participation of the armed forces in a leading role in the future political life of the State, and notes with concern that the working procedures of the National Convention do not permit the elected representatives of the people freely to express their views;

10. *Strongly urges* the Government of Myanmar to take all appropriate measures to allow all citizens to participate freely in the political process, in accordance with the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and to accelerate the process of transition to democracy, in particular through the transfer of power to democratically elected representatives;

11. *Also strongly urges* the Government of Myanmar to ensure full respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, including freedom of expression and assembly, and the protection of the rights of persons belonging to ethnic and religious minorities, and to put an end to violations of the right to life and integrity of the human being, to the practices of torture, abuse of women, forced labour and forced relocations, and to enforced disappearances and summary executions;

12. *Appeals* to the Government of Myanmar to consider becoming a party to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[22] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights[22] and the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman and Degrading Treatment or Punishment;[135]

13. *Urges* the Government of Myanmar to fulfil its obligations as a State party to the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29), and to the Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organize Convention, 1948 (No. 87), of the International Labour Organisation;

14. *Stresses* the importance for the Government of Myanmar to give particular attention to conditions in the country's jails and to allow the International Committee of the Red Cross to communicate freely and confidentially with prisoners;

15. *Calls upon* the Government of Myanmar to respect fully the obligations of the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949,[107] and to make use of such services as may be offered by impartial humanitarian bodies;

16. *Expresses its grave concern* at the attacks by Myanmar army soldiers on the Karens and the Karennis during the past year, resulting in further refugee flows to a neighbouring country;

17. *Welcomes* the cessation of hostilities following the conclusion of cease-fire agreements between the Government of Myanmar and several ethnic groups;

18. *Encourages* the Government of Myanmar to create the necessary conditions to ensure an end to the movements of refugees to neighbouring countries and to create conditions conducive to their voluntary return and their full reintegration, in conditions of safety and dignity;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his discussions with the Government of Myanmar in order to assist in its efforts for national reconciliation and in the implementation of the present resolution and to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session and to the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-second session;

20. *Decides* to continue its consideration of this question at its fifty-first session.

99th plenary meeting
22 December 1995

50/195. Protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons

The General Assembly,

Deeply disturbed by the growing number of internally displaced persons throughout the world who receive inadequate protection and assistance, and conscious of the serious problems this is creating for the international community,

Recalling the relevant norms of international human rights instruments and of international humanitarian law,

Bearing in mind the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,[3] adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993, which calls for a comprehensive approach by the international community with regard to refugees and displaced persons,

Reiterating its call for a more concerted response by the international community to the needs of internally displaced persons while emphasizing that activities on their behalf must not undermine the institution of asylum,

Conscious of the continuing need for the United Nations system to gather information comprehensively on the issue of the protection of human rights of and assistance to internally displaced persons,

Welcoming the decision of the Commission on Human Rights in its resolution 1995/57 of 3 March 1995,[38] in which it extended the mandate of the representative of the Secretary-General on internally displaced persons for another three years to continue his review of the need for protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons, including his compilation and analysis of legal norms, the root causes of internal displacement, prevention and long-term solutions,

Noting the progress made thus far by the representative of the Secretary-General in developing a legal framework, studying the causes and manifestations of internal displacement and analysing institutional arrangements, undertaking dialogue with Governments, issuing a series of reports on particular country situations together with proposals for remedial measures, and raising the level of awareness, at both the national and international levels, concerning the problem of internal displacement,

Welcoming the cooperation already established between the representative of the Secretary-General and the United Nations humanitarian assistance and development organizations engaged in protecting and assisting internally displaced persons, as well as the International Committee of the Red Cross, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and other relevant organizations,

Welcoming in particular the decision by the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to promote further consultations with the representative of the Secretary-General, as well as the decision by the Inter-Agency Standing Committee and its working group to invite the representative to participate in relevant meetings and in its Task Force on Internally Displaced Persons,

Recalling the report of the representative of the Secretary-General submitted to the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-first session,[213] and the conclusions and recommendations contained therein with regard to improving protection of, assistance to and development for internally displaced persons,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the representative of the Secretary-General on internally displaced persons;[214]

2. *Commends* the representative for the catalytic role he is playing in raising the level of consciousness about the plight of internally displaced persons;

3. *Notes* the efforts of the representative to develop a framework and to promote strategies for better protection, assistance and development for internally displaced persons;

4. *Encourages* the representative to continue his analysis of the causes of internal displacement, the needs of those displaced, measures of prevention and ways to increase protection, assistance and solutions for internally displaced persons;

5. *Also encourages* the representative to continue to pay specific attention in his review to the protection and assistance needs of women and children, bearing in mind the relevant strategic objective in the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action,[61] adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women, held at Beijing from 4 to 15 September 1995;

6. *Calls upon* the representative to continue to study the problem of internally displaced persons and to invite, with the approval of Governments, specialists and consultants to contribute expert assistance during missions and to make use of research facilities;

7. *Invites* the representative to finalize his compilation and analysis of existing legal norms for inclusion in his report to the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-second session;

8. *Calls upon* the Commission on Human Rights to consider the question of establishing a framework in this regard on the basis of the report of the representative and the recommendations contained therein;

9. *Calls upon* all Governments to continue to facilitate the activities of the representative, encourages them to give serious consideration to inviting the representative to visit their countries so as to enable him to study and analyse more fully the issues involved, and thanks those Governments which have already done so;

10. *Invites* Governments to give due consideration, in dialogue with the representative, to the recommendations and suggestions made to them by him, in accordance with his mandate, and to inform him of measures taken thereon;

11. *Urges* all relevant United Nations humanitarian assistance and development organizations concerned to establish frameworks of cooperation with the representative so as to provide all possible assistance and support to him in the implementation of his programme of activities, and invites the representative to report thereon;

12. *Calls upon* the representative and regional intergovernmental organizations, such as the Organization of African Unity, the Organization of American States and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, to intensify their cooperation with a view to encouraging their undertaking initiatives to facilitate assistance to and protection of internally displaced persons;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to give all necessary assistance to the representative to carry out his mandate effectively;

14. *Decides* to continue its consideration of this question at its fifty-second session.

99th plenary meeting
22 December 1995

50/196. Human rights in Haiti

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 49/201 of 23 December 1994,

Guided by the principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[5] and the International Covenants on Human Rights,[22]

Taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1995/70 of 8 March 1995,[38] in which the Commission requested the Secretary-General to appoint an independent expert with the mandate to furnish assistance to the Government of Haiti in the area of human rights, to examine the development of the situation of human rights in that country, to monitor the fulfilment by Haiti of its obligations in this field and to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session and to the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-second session,

Recognizing the work carried out by the International Civilian Mission to Haiti for the defence of human rights, and recalling General Assembly resolution 49/27 B of 12 July 1995, in which it decided to authorize the extension of the mandate of the Mission,

1. *Expresses its thanks* for the efforts of the Secretary-General and his Special Representative for Haiti in favour of the consolidation of democratic institutions in Haiti and the respect for human rights in that country;

2. *Welcomes* the satisfactory evolution of the political process in Haiti and the holding of legislative and municipal elections and the forthcoming presidential elections, in accordance with the Constitution, as indispensable elements in the strengthening of democratic institutions;

3. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the independent expert of the Commission on Human Rights, Mr. Adama Dieng, on the situation of human rights in Haiti[215] and the recommendations contained therein;

4. *Expresses its concern* about the recent incidents of violence, in particular the assassination of a member of the Haitian Parliament, and hopes that such acts and other incidents of violence will not impede continued progress in the field of human rights and the consolidation of constitutional democracy;

5. *Welcomes* the establishment of the programme of technical cooperation prepared by the Centre for Human Rights of the Secretariat aimed at strengthening the institutional capacity in the field of human rights, particularly

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[213] E/CN.4/1995/50 and Add.1 and Corr.1, Add.2 and Corr.1, Add.3 and Add.4.

[214] See A/50/558.

[215] See A/50/714.

in the areas of legislative reform, training for justice administration personnel and human rights education;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General, through the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Centre for Human Rights, to take appropriate steps to ensure financial and technical resources for the implementation of such a programme;

7. *Expresses its support* for the work currently undertaken by the National Commission of Truth and Justice, with the cooperation of the International Civilian Mission to Haiti, in its investigation of past human rights abuses, and looks forward to its report at the end of 1995;

8. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms in Haiti at its fifty-first session, on the basis of information provided by the Commission on Human Rights and the Economic and Social Council.

99th plenary meeting
22 December 1995

50/197. Situation of human rights in the Sudan

The General Assembly,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[5] the International Covenants on Human Rights,[22] the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[6] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[50]

Reaffirming that all Member States have an obligation to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms and to comply with the obligations laid down in the various instruments in this field,

Recalling the obligation by all parties to respect international humanitarian law,

Recalling also its resolution 49/198 of 23 December 1994, and taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1995/77 of 8 March 1995,[18]

Noting with deep concern reports of grave human rights violations in the Sudan, particularly summary executions, detentions without trial, forced displacement of persons and torture, as described in reports submitted to the Commission on Human Rights by the Special Rapporteur on the question of torture, the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions and the Special Rapporteur on the question of religious intolerance,

Welcoming the third and latest interim report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Sudan,[216] and noting with concern the continuing violations of human rights in the Sudan,

Concerned about continuing indiscriminate and deliberate aerial bombardments by the Government of the Sudan of civilian targets in southern Sudan, in clear violation of international humanitarian law, which have added to the suffering of the civilian population and resulted in casualties to civilians, including relief workers,

Deeply concerned that access by the civilian population to humanitarian assistance continues to be impeded, which represents a threat to human life and constitutes an offence to human dignity,

Expressing the hope that the continuing dialogue between the Government of the Sudan and other parties and donor Governments, Operation Lifeline Sudan and international private voluntary agencies will result in improved cooperation for the delivery of humanitarian assistance to all persons in need,

Alarmed by the large number of internally displaced persons and victims of discrimination in the Sudan, including members of ethnic minorities who have been forcibly displaced in violation of their human rights and who are in need of relief assistance and protection,

Alarmed also by the mass exodus of refugees into neighbouring countries and conscious of the burden that this places on those countries, but expressing its appreciation for the efforts of host countries and of the international community to assist the refugees,

Deeply concerned by the conclusion of the Special Rapporteur, also stated in his previous reports, that grave and widespread violations of human rights by government agents, as well as abuses by members of parties to the conflict in southern Sudan other than the Government of the Sudan, continue to take place, including extrajudicial killings, enforced or involuntary disappearances, abductions, slavery, systematic torture and widespread arbitrary arrests of suspected political opponents,[217]

Alarmed further by the continuing failure of the Sudanese authorities to investigate human rights violations and abuses brought to their attention over the past years,

Gravely alarmed that since February 1994 there have been increasing reports from a wide variety of sources indicating that atrocities by the Government of the Sudan against the local population in the area of the Nuba Mountains have intensified,

Concerned by reports of religious persecution in areas of the conflict zone controlled by the Government of the Sudan and of discrimination based upon religion in the provision of shelter and relief,

Deeply concerned by the Special Rapporteur's conclusion that the abduction of persons, mainly women and children, belonging to ethnic and religious minorities from southern Sudan, the Nuba Mountains and the Ingessana Hills area, and their subjection to the slave trade, servitude and forced labour are taking place with the knowledge of the Government of the Sudan,[218]

Also deeply concerned about the problem of unaccompanied minors and the use of children as soldiers by all parties despite repeated calls from the international community to put an end to this practice, as described in the report of the Special Rapporteur,

Recognizing the fact that the Sudan has been hosting large numbers of refugees from several neighbouring countries over the past three decades,

Welcoming the release of some of the political prisoners by the Government of the Sudan in August 1995, and noting its recent announcement of open, free and fair elections in 1996,

Also welcoming the efforts of the United Nations and other humanitarian organizations to provide humanitarian relief to those Sudanese in need,

Further welcoming the dialogues and contacts between non-governmental organizations and the religious minorities in the Sudan, aimed at developing a more balanced relationship between the Government of the Sudan and the religious minority groups,

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[216] A/50/569, annex.

[217] Ibid., para. 72.

[218] Ibid., para. 75.

1. *Expresses deep concern* at the serious, widespread and continuing human rights violations in the Sudan, including extrajudicial killings and summary executions; detentions without due process; forced displacement of persons; enforced or involuntary disappearances; torture and other forms of cruel and unusual punishment; slavery, practices similar to slavery and forced labour; and denial of the freedoms of expression, association and peaceful assembly;

2. *Urges* the Government of the Sudan to investigate without delay the cases of slavery, servitude, slave trade, forced labour and similar practices brought to its attention and to take all appropriate measures to put an immediate end to these practices;

3. *Takes note with appreciation* of the interim report of the Special Rapporteur;

4. *Welcomes* the recommendation of the Special Rapporteur that human rights monitors be placed at the earliest possible date in such locations as will facilitate improved information flow and assessment and independent verification of reports on the situation of human rights in the Sudan;[219]

5. *Calls upon* the Government of the Sudan to comply with applicable international human rights instruments to which the Sudan is a party, in particular the International Covenants on Human Rights,[22] the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[6] the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[50] the Slavery Convention, as amended,[149] and the Supplementary Convention on the Abolition of Slavery, the Slave Trade and Institutions and Practices Similar to Slavery,[220] to implement those instruments to which it is a party and to ensure that all individuals in its territory and subject to its jurisdiction, including members of all religious and ethnic groups, enjoy fully the rights recognized in those instruments;

6. *Urges* the Government of the Sudan to cease immediately all aerial attacks on civilian targets and other attacks that are in violation of international humanitarian law;

7. *Calls upon* parties to the hostilities to respect fully the applicable provisions of international humanitarian law, including article 3 common to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949,[107] and the Additional Protocols thereto, of 1977,[108] to halt the use of weapons against the civilian population and to protect all civilians, including women, children and members of ethnic and religious minorities, from violations, including forcible displacement, arbitrary detention, ill-treatment, torture and summary executions, and deplores the consequences for innocent civilians of the use of landmines by government and rebel forces alike;

8. *Again calls upon* the Government of the Sudan and all parties to permit international agencies, humanitarian organizations and donor Governments to deliver humanitarian assistance to the civilian population and to cooperate with the initiatives of the Department of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat and United Nations agencies working in the field, in particular Operation Lifeline Sudan, to deliver humanitarian assistance to all persons in need;

9. *Reiterates its call upon* the Government of the Sudan to ensure a full, thorough and prompt investigation by an independent judicial inquiry commission of the killings of Sudanese nationals employed by foreign relief organizations and foreign Governments;

10. *Welcomes* the decision of the Commission on Human Rights to extend the mandate of the Special Rapporteur for an additional year;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Special Rapporteur with all necessary assistance in the discharge of his mandate;

12. *Deplores* the continuing refusal of the Government of the Sudan to cooperate in any manner with the Special Rapporteur and the unacceptable threats against his person;

13. *Calls upon* the Government of the Sudan to extend its full and unreserved cooperation to the Special Rapporteur and to assist him in the ongoing discharge of his mandate and, to this end, to take all necessary steps to ensure that the Special Rapporteur has free and unlimited access to any person in the Sudan with whom he wishes to meet, with no threats or reprisals;

14. *Invites* the Special Rapporteurs of the Commission on Human Rights on the questions of religious intolerance and freedom of expression to consult with the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Sudan and to consider and report on the situation in the Sudan, and calls upon the Government of the Sudan to extend to them its full cooperation, including inviting them to visit the Sudan;

15. *Recommends* the continued monitoring of the serious human rights situation in the Sudan and of the regional efforts to end the hostilities and human suffering in the south, and invites the Commission on Human Rights, at its fifty-second session, to give urgent attention to the situation of human rights in the Sudan;

16. *Decides* to continue its consideration of this question at its fifty-first session.

99th plenary meeting
22 December 1995

50/198. Situation of human rights in Cuba

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming that all Member States have an obligation to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms as stated in the Charter of the United Nations and elaborated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[5] the International Covenants on Human Rights[22] and other applicable human rights instruments,

Reaffirming also that all States have an obligation to fulfil the commitments they have freely undertaken under the various international instruments,

Taking particular note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1995/66 of 7 March 1995,[38] in which the Commission recognized with deep appreciation the efforts of the Special Rapporteur to carry out his mandate concerning the situation of human rights in Cuba,

Expressing concern about continuing serious violations of human rights in Cuba, of which the majority are violations of civil and political rights, as outlined in the interim report on the situation of human rights in Cuba submitted to the General Assembly by the Special Rapporteur,[221]

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[219] Ibid., para. 82 (*j*).

[220] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 266, No. 3822.

Welcoming the authorization granted to a delegation comprising representatives of four international human rights organizations to visit Cuba, and encouraging the Government of Cuba to grant further access to such organizations,

Also welcoming the release of a number of political prisoners,

Recalling the continued failure of the Government of Cuba to cooperate with the Commission on Human Rights with regard to its resolution 1995/66, including its refusal to permit the Special Rapporteur to visit Cuba,

1. *Commends* the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights for his interim report on the situation of human rights in Cuba;

2. *Expresses its full support* for the work of the Special Rapporteur;

3. *Calls once more upon* the Government of Cuba to cooperate fully with the Special Rapporteur by permitting him full and free access to establish contact with the Government and the citizens of Cuba so that he may fulfil the mandate entrusted to him;

4. *Regrets profoundly* the numerous violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms in Cuba, as described in the report of the Special Rapporteur to the Commission on Human Rights[222] and in his interim report;[221]

5. *Urges* the Government of Cuba to ensure freedom of expression and assembly and the freedom to demonstrate peacefully, including by allowing political parties and non-governmental organizations to function freely in the country and by reforming legislation in this area;

6. *Welcomes* the ratification by the Government of Cuba of the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment;[135]

7. *Calls especially upon* the Government of Cuba to release the numerous persons detained for activities of a political nature, including those specifically mentioned in the report of the Special Rapporteur who suffer from inadequate medical care while imprisoned or whose rights as journalists or jurists are impeded or denied;

8. *Calls upon* the Government of Cuba to adopt the other measures proposed in the interim report of the Special Rapporteur to bring the observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms in Cuba into conformity with international law and international human rights instruments and to end all violations of human rights by, *inter alia*, ratifying and effectively implementing those international human rights instruments to which it is not yet party, ceasing the persecution and punishment of citizens for reasons related to freedom of expression and peaceful association, respecting due process, and granting permission for access to the prisons by non-governmental humanitarian organizations and international humanitarian agencies;

9. *Decides* to continue its consideration of this question at its fifty-first session.

99th plenary meeting
22 December 1995

50/199. Situation of human rights in Nigeria

The General Assembly,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[5] the International Covenants on Human Rights,[22] the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action[3] and other human rights instruments,

Reaffirming that all Member States have the duty to fulfil the obligations they have freely undertaken under the various international instruments in this field,

Mindful that Nigeria is a party to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[22]

Expressing concern that the absence of representative government in Nigeria has led to violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms, and recalling in this regard the popular support for democratic rule as evidenced in the 1993 elections,

Noting with interest that the Government of Nigeria, on 1 October 1995, affirmed the principle of multi-party democracy, announcing its intent to accept the principle of power-sharing, lift the ban on political activity and the press, devolve power to local levels of government and subordinate the military to civilian authority, but disappointed that only limited action in this regard has followed,

Noting with alarm the recent arbitrary executions of nine persons, namely Ken Saro-Wiwa, Barinem Kiobel, Saturday Dobee, Paul Levura, Nordu Eawo, Felix Nwate, Daniel Gbokoo, John Kpuimen and Baribor Bera,

Noting the decision of the heads of Government of the Commonwealth countries to suspend Nigeria from membership in the Commonwealth,

Noting also the decisions of the European Union, as well as those of other States or groups of States with regard to Nigeria,

Deeply concerned about the human rights situation in Nigeria and the suffering caused thereby to the people of Nigeria,

1. *Condemns* the arbitrary execution, after a flawed judicial process, of Ken Saro-Wiwa and his eight co-defendants, and emphasizes that everyone charged with a penal offence has the right to be presumed innocent until proved guilty according to law in a public trial with all the guarantees necessary for defence;

2. *Expresses its deep concern* about other violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms in Nigeria, and calls upon the Government of Nigeria urgently to ensure their observance, in particular by restoring habeas corpus, releasing all political prisoners, guaranteeing freedom of the press and ensuring full respect for the rights of all individuals, including trade unionists and persons belonging to minorities;

3. *Calls upon* the Government of Nigeria to abide by its freely undertaken obligations under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and other international instruments on human rights;

4. *Urges* the Government of Nigeria to take immediate and concrete steps to restore democratic rule;

5. *Welcomes* the decisions by the Commonwealth and other States individually or collectively to take various actions designed to underline to the Government of Nigeria the importance of return to democratic rule and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms, and expresses the hope that these actions and other possible actions by other States, consistent with international law, will encour-

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[221] A/50/663, annex.

[222] E/CN.4/1995/52.

age the Government of Nigeria to achieve that specific purpose;

6. *Invites* the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-second session to give urgent attention to the situation of human rights in Nigeria, and recommends, in this regard, that its relevant mechanisms, in particular the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, report to the Commission prior to its fifth-third session;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in the discharge of his good offices mandate and in cooperation with the Commonwealth, to undertake discussions with the Government of Nigeria and to report on progress in the implementation of the present resolution and on the possibilities for the international community to offer practical assistance to Nigeria in achieving the restoration of democratic rule.

99th plenary meeting
22 December 1995

50/200. Situation of human rights in Rwanda

The General Assembly,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[5] the International Covenants on Human Rights,[22] the Convention on the Prevention and the Punishment of the Crime of Genocide[199] and other applicable human rights and humanitarian law standards,

Recalling its resolution 49/206 of 23 December 1994, and taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1995/91 of 8 March 1995,[38] in which the Commission renewed the mandate of the Special Rapporteur to investigate the human rights situation in Rwanda,

Welcoming the commitments of the Government of Rwanda to protect and promote respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms and to eliminate impunity, recalling the efforts to restore the rule of law and reconstruct the civil administration and the social, legal and human rights infrastructure, and noting that these efforts are hampered by a lack of resources,

Noting the concerns of the Special Rapporteur, as set out in his report of 28 June 1995,[223] that the human rights situation is exacerbated by the inadequate system for the administration of justice, characterized by a shortage of both human and material resources, and that there are threats and violence against the physical integrity of individuals, arrest, detention and treatment and conditions of detention, which do not conform to international standards,

Expressing its grave concern at the tragedy of Kibeho in April 1995, and bearing in mind the conclusions of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry in its report of 18 May 1995,[224]

Recalling the obligations of all States to punish all persons who commit or authorize genocide or other grave violations of international humanitarian law or those who are responsible for grave violations of human rights and, pursuant to Security Council resolution 978 (1995) of 27 February 1995, to exert every effort, without delay, to bring those responsible to justice in accordance with international principles of due process, and to honour their obligations under international law in this regard, particularly under the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide,

Welcoming the measures taken by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to put in place the Human Rights Field Operation in Rwanda and to coordinate its activities with those of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda, the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States, between 1 January and 31 December 1994, the Department of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat, and other United Nations agencies and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, and the International Committee of the Red Cross,

Recognizing the valuable contribution that the human rights officers deployed by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to Rwanda have made towards the improvement of the overall situation,

Deeply concerned by the reports of the Special Rapporteur and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, according to which genocide and systematic, widespread and flagrant violations of international humanitarian law, including crimes against humanity and grave violations and abuses of human rights, were committed in Rwanda,

Welcoming the policy of the Government of Rwanda to facilitate the process of voluntary and safe return, resettlement and reintegration of refugees, as reaffirmed in the Cairo Declaration on the Great Lakes Region of 29 November 1995,[225]

Noting the United Nations support for all efforts to reduce tension and restore stability in the Great Lakes region, and supporting initiatives of the Secretary-General in this regard, particularly in implementing the Cairo Declaration on the Great Lakes Region and continuing consultations with the aim of convening a conference on security, stability and development in the Great Lakes region, as appropriate,

Recalling Security Council resolution 1029 (1995) of 12 December 1995, in which the Council renewed the mandate of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda to exercise its good offices to assist in achieving the voluntary and safe repatriation of Rwandan refugees within the frame of reference of the recommendations of the Bujumbura Conference[226] and the Cairo Summit of the heads of State of the Great Lakes region,[225] and in promoting genuine national reconciliation, to assist the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and other international agencies in the provision of logistical support for the repatriation of refugees, to contribute, with the agreement of the Government of Rwanda, to the protection of the International Tribunal for Rwanda as an interim measure until alternative arrangements agreed with the Government of Rwanda can be put in place,

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[223] A/50/709-S/1995/915, annex III; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fiftieth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1995*, document S/1995/915.

[224] See *Official Records of the Security Council, Fiftieth Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1995*, document S/1995/411.

[225] Ibid., *Supplement for October, November and December 1995*, S/1995/1001.

[226] Regional Conference on Assistance to Refugees, Returnees and Displaced Persons in the Great Lakes Region, held at Bujumbura from 15 to 17 February 1995.

Acknowledging the responsibility of the Government of Rwanda for the safety and security of all personnel attached to the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda, United Nations agencies and humanitarian organizations and other international staff operating in the country,

Recognizing the important role played by non-governmental organizations in providing humanitarian assistance and contributing to the reconstruction and rehabilitation of Rwanda,

Recognizing also that effective action must be taken to ensure that the perpetrators of genocide and crimes against humanity are promptly brought to justice,

Recognizing further that effective action to prevent further violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms must be a central and integral element of the overall Rwandan and United Nations responses to the situation in Rwanda and that a strong human rights component is indispensable to the political peace process and the post-conflict reconstruction of Rwanda,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the Human Rights Field Operation in Rwanda,[227] and takes note of the reports of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights[228] on violations committed during the tragedy in Rwanda and on the current situation of human rights in Rwanda;

2. *Condemns in the strongest terms* the acts of genocide, violations of international humanitarian law and all violations and abuses of human rights that occurred during the tragedy in Rwanda, especially following the events of 6 April 1994, which resulted in a massive loss of human life, up to one million people;

3. *Expresses its deep concern* at the intense suffering of the victims of genocide and crimes against humanity, recognizes the ongoing suffering of their survivors, particularly the extremely high number of traumatized children and women victims of rape and sexual violence, and urges the international community to provide adequate assistance to them;

4. *Condemns* the killing of personnel attached to the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda, United Nations agencies and humanitarian organizations operating in the country, including Rwandan personnel working with them;

5. *Calls upon* the Government of Rwanda to take all necessary measures to ensure the safety and security of all personnel attached to the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda, United Nations agencies and humanitarian organizations and other international staff operating in the country;

6. *Reaffirms* that all persons who commit or authorize genocide or other grave violations of international humanitarian law or those who are responsible for grave violations of human rights are individually responsible and accountable for those violations;

7. *Urges* all States, pursuant to Security Council resolution 978 (1995), to exert, without delay, every effort, including arrest and detention, in order to bring those responsible to justice in accordance with international principles of due process, and also urges States to honour their obligations under international law in this regard, particularly under the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide;

8. *Recognizes* that effective action must be taken by all States concerned to ensure that the perpetrators of genocide and crimes against humanity are promptly brought to justice, and urges all States concerned to cooperate fully with the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States, between 1 January and 31 December 1994, taking into account the obligations contained in Security Council resolutions 955 (1994) of 8 November 1994 and 978 (1995), and to intensify efforts for the effective functioning of the Tribunal without delay;

9. *Commends* the efforts of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, working in cooperation with and assisting the Government of Rwanda, to ensure that human rights monitoring, a comprehensive programme of human rights assistance and confidence-building measures form integral parts of Rwandan and United Nations efforts aimed at conflict prevention and peace-building in Rwanda, drawing as appropriate on the expertise and capacities of all parts of the United Nations system, thus contributing to the promotion and protection of human rights in Rwanda;

10. *Encourages* the Government of Rwanda, in a spirit of national reconciliation, to intensify efforts to protect and promote respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms and to create an environment conducive to the realization of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights and the voluntary and safe return of refugees to their homes;

11. *Takes note with concern* of the findings of the Special Rapporteur as set out in his report of 28 June 1995,[223] and of the Human Rights Field Operation in Rwanda, that the human rights situation is exacerbated by the inadequate system for the administration of justice, characterized by a shortage of both human and material resources;

12. *Notes with concern* the arrest, detention and treatment and conditions of detention that do not conform to international standards, as set out in the report of the Special Rapporteur;

13. *Also notes with concern* that a situation still exists, evidenced by reports of threats and violence against the physical integrity of individuals, which is sometimes exacerbated by incursions;

14. *Urges* Governments in the region to take measures to prevent their territory from being used to pursue a strategy of destabilization of Rwanda, and, in this regard, urges all States concerned to cooperate fully with the International Commission of Inquiry on arms flows in the Great Lakes region, established in pursuance of Security Council resolution 1013 (1995) of 7 September 1995;

15. *Condemns* the mass killings of civilians at Kibeho

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[227] A/50/743, annex.

[228] A/50/709-S/1995/915, annexes I-III; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fiftieth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1995, document S/1995/915.*

in April 1995, takes note of the conclusions of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry in its report,[224] and expresses its grave concern at the events in Kanama in September 1995;

16. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Government of Rwanda to reconstruct the civil administration and the social, legal, economic and human rights infrastructure of Rwanda, encourages the Government to intensify its efforts, with the assistance of the international community, the Human Rights Field Operation in Rwanda and other United Nations bodies, to expedite the processing of cases, to ensure conditions and treatment in detention in conformity with international standards, and to train civilian police in the legal procedures governing arrest and detention, and notes that efforts in this regard are hampered by a lack of human and financial resources;

17. *Invites* Member States, the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to continue and intensify their efforts to contribute financial and technical support to the efforts of the Government of Rwanda to reconstruct the civil administration and the social, legal, economic and human rights infrastructure of Rwanda, particularly in the areas of the administration of justice, and welcomes the contributions made, including those at the Round Table Conference at Geneva and its mid-term review, and urges States and donor agencies to fulfil their earlier commitments;

18. *Condemns* all violence and intimidation against persons in the refugee camps in neighbouring countries, calls upon the appropriate authorities to ensure security in such camps, and welcomes the commitments undertaken by the Governments in the region in the Cairo Declaration on the Great Lakes Region;

19. *Welcomes* the joint efforts of the Government of Rwanda, neighbouring countries and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to assist the voluntary and safe return of refugees through, *inter alia*, the work of the Tripartite Commission and the agreements reached at Nairobi in January 1995, Bujumbura in February 1995 and Cairo in November 1995, and welcomes also the efforts of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda and the United Nations Development Programme to coordinate their efforts to ensure protection of the human rights of refugees during their return, resettlement and reintegration;

20. *Also welcomes* the measures taken by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, working in cooperation with and assisting the Government of Rwanda, to put in place the Human Rights Field Operation in Rwanda, which has as its objective:

(*a*) The investigation of violations of human rights and humanitarian law, including acts of genocide and crimes against humanity;

(*b*) The monitoring of the human rights situation and the prevention of future violations;

(*c*) Cooperation with other international agencies in reestablishing confidence and thus facilitating the voluntary return and resettlement of refugees and displaced persons;

(*d*) The rebuilding of civil society, through programmes of human rights education and technical cooperation, particularly in the areas of the administration of justice and conditions of arrest, detention and treatment in detention, and through programmes of cooperation with Rwandan human rights organizations;

and requests the High Commissioner to report regularly on all of these activities of the Field Operation and to cooperate and share information with the Special Rapporteur in order to assist him in fulfilling his mandate;

21. *Further welcomes* the cooperation the Government of Rwanda has extended to the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Human Rights Field Operation in Rwanda and the Special Rapporteur and the acceptance by the Government of Rwanda of the deployment of human rights field officers throughout the country;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take appropriate steps to ensure adequate financial and human resources and logistical support for the Human Rights Field Operation in Rwanda, taking into account the need to deploy a sufficient number of human rights field officers and the need for programmes of technical assistance and advisory services for the Government of Rwanda and Rwandan human rights organizations, especially in the field of the administration of justice;

23. *Requests* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to report on the activities of the Human Rights Field Operation in Rwanda to the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-second session and to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session.

99th plenary meeting
22 December 1995

50/201. Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 48/121 of 20 December 1993, in which it endorsed the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,[3] adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights, held at Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993, as well as its resolution 49/208 of 23 December 1994 on the comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,

Recalling also Commission on Human Rights resolution 1994/95 of 9 March 1994,[207] in which the Commission decided to review annually the progress towards the full implementation of the recommendations contained in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,

Reaffirming the view of the World Conference on Human Rights that the promotion and protection of human rights is a matter of priority for the international community,

Considering that the promotion of universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms is one of the basic purposes of the Charter of the United Nations and one of the main priorities of the Organization,

Recognizing the urgency of eliminating denials and violations of human rights, as expressed in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,

Convinced that the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action has to be translated into effective action by States, the competent United Nations organs and organizations and other organizations concerned, including non-governmental organizations,

Recognizing the importance of dialogue and cooperation between Governments and non-governmental organizations in the field of human rights,

Noting that the activities envisaged in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action add further to the workload and the responsibilities of the United Nations human rights system and that so far only initial steps have been taken towards bridging the gap between resources and the mandated outputs,

Recalling the request of the Conference to the Secretary-General and the General Assembly to take immediate steps to increase substantially the resources for the human rights programme from within the existing and future regular budgets of the United Nations,

Welcoming the fact that the call of the Conference for a United Nations system-wide approach to human rights issues has been reflected in the recommendations of major international conferences organized by the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields, in particular in the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, held at Cairo from 5 to 13 September 1994,[59] the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development,[60] held at Copenhagen from 6 to 12 March 1995 and the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women,[61] held at Beijing from 4 to 15 September 1995,

Noting the ongoing efforts to ensure a coordinated follow-up to major international conferences in the economic, social and related fields,

Recognizing that the interdependence of democracy, development and respect for human rights, as stated in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, requires a comprehensive and integrated approach to the promotion and protection of human rights,

Recalling that in its resolution 48/141 the General Assembly decided to create the post of United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights as the United Nations official with principal responsibility for United Nations human rights activities, including coordination of the human rights promotion and protection activities throughout the United Nations system,

Noting that at the first regular session of 1994 of the Administrative Committee on Coordination, in April 1994, the executive heads of all United Nations agencies discussed the implications of the results of the Conference for their respective programmes and committed themselves to supporting the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in the coordination of the United Nations organs, bodies and the specialized agencies whose activities deal with human rights, as set out in resolution 48/141,

Noting also that the High Commissioner has established a permanent dialogue with the United Nations programmes and agencies whose activities deal with human rights in order to maintain systematic exchanges of information, experience and expertise,

Having considered the report of the High Commissioner,[194]

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights;

2. *Endorses* the reaffirmation in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action of the importance of the promotion of universal respect for, and observance and protection of, all human rights and fundamental freedoms in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations;

3. *Reaffirms* the views of the World Conference on Human Rights on the urgency of eliminating denials and violations of human rights;

4. *Recognizes* that the international community should devise ways and means to remove current obstacles and meet the challenges to the full realization of all human rights and to prevent the continuation of human rights violations resulting therefrom throughout the world;

5. *Calls upon* all States to take further action with a view to the full realization of all human rights in the light of the recommendations of the Conference;

6. *Urges* all States to continue to give widespread publicity to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action in order to promote increased awareness of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

7. *Reiterates* the request of the Conference that immediate steps be taken to increase substantially the resources for the human rights programme from within existing and future regular budgets of the United Nations;

8. *Welcomes with appreciation* the work of the High Commissioner accomplished thus far, and expresses its commitment to continue to cooperate with and support the High Commissioner in the discharge of his mandate, as set out in resolution 48/141;

9. *Requests* the High Commissioner, the General Assembly, the Commission on Human Rights and other organs and bodies of the United Nations system related to human rights to take further action with a view to the full implementation of all the recommendations of the Conference;

10. *Also requests* the High Commissioner to continue to coordinate the human rights promotion and protection activities throughout the United Nations system, as set out in resolution 48/141, including through a permanent dialogue with the United Nations agencies and programmes whose activities deal with human rights;

11. *Invites* the Administrative Committee on Coordination to continue to discuss the implications of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action for the United Nations system;

12. *Requests* the High Commissioner to continue to report on the measures taken and the progress achieved in the comprehensive implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action;

13. *Decides* to consider this question at its fifty-first session under the sub-item "Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action".

99th plenary meeting
22 December 1995

50/202. Amendment to article 20, paragraph 1, of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 49/164 of 23 December 1994 on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[49] and its decision 49/448 of 23 December 1994 on the consideration of the request for the revision of article 20, paragraph 1, of the Convention,

Noting the decision of the States parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women of 22 May 1995[229] to amend article 20, paragraph 1, of the Convention,

Welcoming the call for broad ratification of this amendment in the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women,[102] held at Beijing from 4 to 15 September 1995,

Reiterating the importance of the Convention as well as the contribution of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women to the efforts of the United Nations to eliminate discrimination against women,

1. *Takes note with approval* of the resolution regarding the amendment to article 20, paragraph 1, of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, adopted by the States parties to the Convention on 22 May 1995;

2. *Urges* States parties to the Convention to take appropriate measures so that acceptance by a two-thirds majority of States parties can be reached as soon as possible in order for the amendment to enter into force.

99th plenary meeting
22 December 1995

50/203. Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 45/129 of 14 December 1990, 46/98 of 16 December 1991 and 47/95 of 16 December 1992, as well as Economic and Social Council resolution 1990/12 of 24 May 1990 and Council decision 1992/272 of 30 July 1992, recommending that a world conference on women be held in 1995,

Reaffirming the importance of the outcome of the previous World Conferences on Women, held at Mexico City in 1975,[230] at Copenhagen in 1980[231] and at Nairobi in 1985,[232]

Building on the consensus reached and the progress made at previous United Nations conferences and summits, for children in New York in 1990,[52] on environment and development at Rio de Janeiro in 1992,[53] on human rights at Vienna in 1993,[233] on population and development at Cairo in 1994[46] and on social development at Copenhagen in 1995,[47] towards achieving equality, development and peace,

Expressing its satisfaction that the Fourth World Conference on Women: Action for Equality, Development and Peace reached a successful conclusion and adopted the Beijing Declaration[234] and the Platform for Action,[102]

Expressing its profound gratitude to the Government of the People's Republic of China for having made it possible for the Conference to be held at Beijing and for the excellent facilities, staff and services so graciously placed at the disposal of the Conference,

Recognizing the significance of the outcome of the Conference to make a real change for the empowerment of women and thus to the fulfilment of the goals adopted in the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women,[127]

Deeply convinced that the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action are important contributions to the advancement of women worldwide and must be translated into effective action by all States, the United Nations system and other organizations concerned, as well as non-governmental organizations,

Recognizing that the implementation of the Platform for Action rests primarily at the national level, that Governments, non-governmental organizations and public and private institutions should be involved in the implementation process and that national mechanisms also have an important role to play,

Bearing in mind that promotion of international cooperation is essential for the effective implementation of the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action,

Recognizing that the implementation of the Platform for Action requires commitment from Governments and the international community,

Recognizing also the important role played by States, the United Nations, the regional commissions and other international organizations, as well as non-governmental organizations and women's organizations, in the preparatory process of the Conference and the importance of their involvement in the implementation of the Platform for Action,

Taking into account the fact that the follow-up to the Conference should be undertaken on the basis of an integrated approach to the advancement of women within the framework of a coordinated follow-up to and implementation of the results of the major international conferences in the economic, social and related fields, as well as the overall responsibilities of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council,

Bearing in mind its resolution 50/42 of 8 December 1995,

Expressing its appreciation to the Secretary-General, the Secretary-General of the Conference and the staff of the Secretariat for the effective preparations and services provided for the Conference,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Fourth World Conference on Women,[235] as adopted on 15 September 1995;

2. *Endorses* the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action as adopted by the Conference;

3. *Calls upon* States, the United Nations system and all other actors to implement the Platform for Action, in particular by promoting an active and visible policy of mainstreaming a gender perspective at all levels, including in the design, monitoring and evaluation of all policies, as

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[229] CEDAW/SP/1995/2, annex.

[230] See *Report of the World Conference of the International Women's Year, Mexico City, 19 June-2 July 1975* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.IV.1).

[231] See *Report of the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Copenhagen, 14-30 July 1980* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.80.IV.3 and corrigendum).

[232] See *Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10).

[233] See A/CONF.157/24 (Part I).

[234] A/CONF.177/20 and Add.1, chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[235] A/CONF.177/20 and Add.1.

appropriate, in order to ensure effective implementation of the Platform;

4. *Stresses* that Governments have the primary responsibility for implementing the Platform for Action, that commitment at the highest level is essential for its implementation and that Governments should take a leading role in coordinating, monitoring and assessing progress in the advancement of women;

5. *Calls upon* States, with the assistance of non-governmental organizations, to disseminate the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action widely;

6. *Emphasizes* that Governments should, as soon as possible and no later than 1996, develop comprehensive implementation strategies or plans of action, including time-bound targets and benchmarks for monitoring, in order to implement the Platform for Action fully;

7. *Calls upon* Governments to create a national machinery where it does not exist and to strengthen, as appropriate, existing national machineries for the advancement of women;

8. *Encourages* non-governmental organizations to contribute to the design and implementation of these strategies or national plans of action in addition to their own programmes that complement government efforts;

9. *Recognizes* the importance attached to the regional monitoring of the global and regional platforms for action by regional commissions and other subregional or regional structures, within their mandates, in consultation with Governments, and the necessity of promoting cooperation among national Governments of the same region in this respect;

10. *Invites* the Economic and Social Council, in order to facilitate the regional implementation, monitoring and evaluation process, to consider reviewing the institutional capacity of the United Nations regional commissions, within their mandates, including their women's units or focal points, to deal with gender-related issues in the light of the Platform for Action, as well as the regional platforms and plans of action, and to give consideration, *inter alia*, and where appropriate, to strengthening the capacity in this respect;

11. *Calls upon* States to take action to fulfil the commitments made at the Conference for the advancement of women and for the strengthening of international cooperation, and reaffirms that adequate financial resources should be committed at the international level for the implementation of the Platform for Action in the developing countries, in particular in Africa, and in the least developed countries;

12. *Recognizes* that implementation of the Platform for Action in the countries with economies in transition requires continued international cooperation and assistance, as indicated in the Platform for Action;

13. *Stresses* that full and effective implementation of the Platform for Action will require a political commitment to make available human and financial resources for the empowerment of women, the integration of a gender perspective in budgetary decisions on policies and programmes, as well as adequate financing of specific programmes for securing equality between women and men;

14. *Reaffirms* that, in order to implement the Platform for Action, a reformulation of policies and reallocation of resources may be needed, but that some policy changes may not necessarily have financial implications;

15. *Reaffirms also* that, in order to implement the Platform for Action, adequate mobilization of resources at the national and international levels, as well as new and additional resources to the developing countries, in particular in Africa, and the least developed countries, from all available funding mechanisms, including multilateral, bilateral and private sources for the advancement of women, will also be required;

16. *Calls upon* those States committed to the 20:20 initiative to integrate a gender perspective fully into its implementation, as referred to in paragraph 358 of the Platform for Action;

17. *Recognizes* that the creation of an enabling environment is necessary to ensure the full participation of women in economic activities;

18. *Reaffirms further* that the implementation of the Platform for Action will require immediate and concerted action by all to create a peaceful, just and humane world based on all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the principle of equality for all people of all ages and from all walks of life, and to this end, recognizes that broad-based and sustained economic growth in the context of sustainable development is necessary to sustain social development and social justice;

19. *Considers*, in relation to the United Nations, that the Platform for Action should be implemented through the work of all the bodies and organizations of the system during the period 1995-2000, specifically and as an integral part of wider programming;

20. *Considers also* that an enhanced framework for international cooperation for gender-related issues must be developed during the period 1995-2000 in order to ensure the integrated and comprehensive implementation, follow-up and assessment of the Platform for Action, taking into account the results of global United Nations summits and conferences;

21. *Decides* that the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on the Status of Women, in accordance with their respective mandates and in accordance with Assembly resolution 48/162 of 20 December 1993 and other relevant resolutions, shall constitute a three-tiered intergovernmental mechanism that will play the primary role in the overall policy-making and follow-up, and in coordinating the implementation and monitoring of the Platform for Action, reaffirming the need for a coordinated follow-up to and implementation of the results of major international conferences in the economic, social and related fields;

22. *Also decides* to appraise the progress on a regular basis and to include in the agenda of its forthcoming sessions, starting from 1996, an item entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women", with a view to assessing, in the year 2000, the progress achieved in the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women and the Platform for Action in an appropriate forum;

23. *Invites* the Economic and Social Council to consider devoting to this matter one high-level segment, one coordination segment and one operational segment, before the year 2000, taking into account the multi-year programme of work of the Commission on the Status of Women and all other functional commissions of the Council;

24. *Also invites* the Economic and Social Council to review and strengthen the mandate of the Commission on the Status of Women, taking into account the Platform for Action as well as the need for synergy with all other related commissions and conference follow-up, and for a system-wide approach to its implementation;

25. *Decides* that the Commission on the Status of Women, as a functional commission assisting the Economic and Social Council, shall have a central role in the monitoring of the implementation of the Platform for Action within the United Nations system and in advising the Council thereon;

26. *Aslo decides* that the Economic and Social Council should oversee system-wide coordination in the implementation of the Platform for Action, ensure overall coordination of the follow-up to and implementation of the results of all United Nations international conferences in the economic, social and related fields and report thereon to the General Assembly;

27. *Requests* the Commission on the Status of Women to develop its multi-year programme of work for the period 1996-2000 at its fortieth session so that it can review the critical areas of concern in the Platform for Action and to consider how it could integrate into its programme of work the follow-up to the Conference and how it could develop its catalytic role in mainstreaming a gender perspective in United Nations activities, taking into account the need for a focused and thematic approach to the review of the Platform for Action and the contribution that can be made by all other functional commissions of the Council;

28. *Also requests* the Commission on the Status of Women to forward its recommendations on the multi-year programme of work to the Economic and Social Council so that the Council can take a decision on the programme of work at its meeting in 1996, reviewing, coordinating and harmonizing the different programmes of work, including the reporting systems of all the commissions in the area of the advancement of women;

29. *Invites* all other functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, within their mandates, to take due account of the Platform for Action and to ensure the integration of gender aspects in their respective work;

30. *Requests* the Secretary-General to assume responsibility for the coordination of policy within the United Nations for the implementation of the Platform for Action and the mainstreaming of a system-wide gender perspective in all activities of the United Nations system, including training, in accordance with paragraph 326 of the Platform for Action;

31. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to disseminate the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action as widely as possible, including to the competent organs of the United Nations and the specialized agencies;

32. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to report, through the Commission on the Status of Women and the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session on ways to enhance the capacity of the Organization and of the United Nations system to support the ongoing follow-up to the Conference in the most integrated and effective way, including human and financial requirements;

33. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the more effective functioning of the Division for the Advancement of Women of the Secretariat in order to carry out all the tasks foreseen for it in the Platform for Action by, *inter alia*, providing sufficient human and financial resources within the regular budget of the United Nations;

34. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, to ask the resident coordinators fully to apply a gender perspective in integrating the follow-up to the Conference into the coordinated follow-up to recent global United Nations conferences;

35. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to report annually to the Commission on the Status of Women and to the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council, on the measures taken and the progress achieved in the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action;

36. *Requests* the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, within its mandate, to take into account the Platform for Action when considering reports submitted by States parties, and invites States parties to include information on measures taken to implement the Platform for Action in their reports;

37. *Notes* the importance of the activities undertaken by the United Nations Development Fund for Women and the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women in the implementation of the Platform for Action;

38. *Encourages* international financial institutions to review and revise policies, procedures and staffing to ensure that investments and programmes benefit women and thus contribute to sustainable development;

39. *Invites* the World Trade Organization to consider how it might contribute to the implementation of the Platform for Action, including through activities in cooperation with the United Nations system.

99th plenary meeting
22 December 1995

VII. RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED ON THE REPORTS OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE[1]

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[1] For the decisions adopted on the reports of the Fifth Committee, see sect. IX.B.6.

50/20. Financing of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force[2] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[3]

Bearing in mind Security Council resolution 350 (1974) of 31 May 1974, by which the Council established the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force, and the subsequent resolutions by which the Council extended the mandate of the Force, the latest of which was resolution 996 (1995) of 30 May 1995,

Recalling its resolution 3211 B (XXIX) of 29 November 1974 on the financing of the United Nations Emergency Force and the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force, and its subsequent resolutions thereon, the latest of which was resolution 49/225 of 23 December 1994, and decision 49/413 B of 12 July 1995,

Reaffirming that the costs of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling also its previous decisions regarding the fact that, in order to meet the expenditures caused by the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force, a different procedure is required from the one applied to meet expenditures of the regular budget of the United Nations,

Taking into account the fact that the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions and that the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards such an operation,

Bearing in mind the special responsibilities of the States permanent members of the Security Council, as indicated in General Assembly resolution 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, in the financing of such operations,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

Concerned that the Secretary-General continues to face difficulties in meeting the obligations of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force on a current basis, including reimbursement to current and former troop-contributing States,

Concerned also that the surplus balances in the Suspense Account for the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force have been used to meet expenses of the Force in order to compensate for the lack of income resulting from non-payment and late payment by Member States of their contributions,

1. *Takes note* of the status of contributions to the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force as at 20 November 1995, including the contributions unpaid in the amount of 64,565,741 United States dollars, representing 6 per cent of the total assessed contributions from the inception of the Force to the period ending 30 November 1995, notes that some 30 per cent of the Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States concerned, particularly those in arrears, to ensure the payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

2. *Expresses concern* about the financial situation with regard to peace-keeping activities, particularly as regards the reimbursement of troop contributors, owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

3. *Urges* all Member States to make every possible effort to ensure the payment of their assessed contributions to the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force promptly and in full;

4. *Endorses* the observations and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[3]

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

6. *Decides* to appropriate to the Special Account for the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force the amount of 16,065,498 dollars gross (15,564,000 dollars net), authorized and apportioned by the General Assembly in paragraph 11 of its resolution 49/225 for the operation of the Force for the period from 1 June to 30 November 1995, inclusive;

7. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to enter into commitments for the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force at a rate not to exceed 2,679,000 dollars gross (2,603,000 dollars net) per month for a period up to seven months from 1 December 1995, should the Security Council decide to continue the Force beyond the period of six months authorized under its resolution 996 (1995), the said amount to be apportioned among Member States in accordance with the scheme set out in the present resolution;

8. *Decides*, as an ad hoc arrangement, to apportion the amount referred to in paragraph 7 above among Member States in accordance with the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of General Assembly resolution 43/232 of 1 March 1989, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolutions 44/192 B of 21 December 1989, 45/269 of 27 August 1991, 46/198 A of 20 December 1991 and 47/218 A of 23 December 1992 and its decision 48/472 A of 23 December 1993, and taking into account the scale of assessments for the years 1995 and 1996,[4] subject to the decision of the Security Council to extend the mandate of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force beyond 30 November 1995 and the mandate periods to be decided upon by the Council;

9. *Decides also* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 8 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 532,000 dollars for the period from 1 December 1995 to 30 June 1996, inclusive;

10. *Decides further* that there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 8 above, their respective share in the estimated other income of 9,000 dollars for the period from 1 December 1995 to 30 June 1996, inclusive;

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[2] A/50/386 and Corr.1.

[3] A/50/694.

[4] See resolution 49/19 B.

11. *Decides* that there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 8 above, their respective share in the unencumbered balance of 805,000 dollars gross (891,000 dollars net) for the period from 1 December 1993 to 30 November 1994, inclusive, pursuant to General Assembly decision 49/413 B;

12. *Invites* voluntary contributions to the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure established by the General Assembly in its resolutions 43/230 of 21 December 1988, 44/192 A of 21 December 1989 and 45/258 of 3 May 1991;

13. *Decides also* to keep the sub-item entitled "United Nations Disengagement Observer Force", under the agenda item entitled "Financing of the United Nations peace-keeping forces in the Middle East", under review during its fiftieth session.

76th plenary meeting
1 December 1995

50/89. Financing of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon,[5] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[3]

Bearing in mind Security Council resolution 425 (1978) of 19 March 1978, by which the Council established the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon, and the subsequent resolutions by which the Council extended the mandate of the Force, the latest of which was resolution 1006 (1995) of 28 July 1995,

Recalling its resolution S-8/2 of 21 April 1978 on the financing of the Force and its subsequent resolutions and decisions thereon, the latest of which were resolution 49/226 of 23 December 1994 and decision 49/483 of 12 July 1995,

Reaffirming that the costs of the Force are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling also its previous decisions regarding the fact that, in order to meet the expenditures caused by the Force, a different procedure is required from the one applied to meet expenditures of the regular budget of the United Nations,

Taking into account the fact that the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions and that the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards such an operation,

Bearing in mind the special responsibilities of the States permanent members of the Security Council, as indicated in General Assembly resolution 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, in the financing of such operations,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Force with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

Recalling its resolution 34/9 E of 17 December 1979 and the subsequent resolutions in which it decided that the provisions of regulations 5.2 (*b*), 5.2 (*d*), 4.3 and 4.4 of the financial regulations of the United Nations should be suspended, the latest of which was resolution 49/226,

Concerned that the Secretary-General continues to face difficulties in meeting the obligations of the Force on a current basis, including reimbursement to current and former troop-contributing States,

Concerned also that the surplus balances in the Special Account for the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon have been used up for meeting expenses of the Force in order to compensate for the lack of income resulting from non-payment and late payment by Member States of their contributions and have consequently been exhausted,

1. *Takes note* of the status of contributions to the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon as at 13 December 1995, including the contributions unpaid in the amount of 216,216,752 United States dollars, representing 9 per cent of the total assessed contributions from the inception of the Force to the period ending 31 January 1996, notes that some 22 per cent of the Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States concerned, particularly those in arrears, to ensure the payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

2. *Expresses concern* about the financial situation with regard to peace-keeping activities, particularly as regards the reimbursement of troop contributors, notably those troop-contributing Member States that have paid their assessed contributions in full, which bear an additional burden owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

3. *Urges* all Member States to make every possible effort to ensure the payment of their assessed contributions to the Force promptly and in full;

4. *Endorses* the observations and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[3]

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Force is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

6. *Decides* to appropriate to the Special Account for the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon the amount of 67,407,000 United States dollars gross (65,224,980 dollars net) authorized and apportioned by the General Assembly in paragraph 10 of its resolution 49/226 for the operation of the Force from 1 August 1995 to 31 January 1996, inclusive;

7. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to enter into commitments for the operation of the Force at a rate not to exceed 10,774,800 dollars gross (10,489,600 dollars net) per month for a period of up to five months beginning 1 February 1996, and to assess the amount of 32,324,400 dollars gross (31,468,800 dollars net) on Member States in accordance with the scheme set out in the present resolution, should the Security Council decide to continue the Force beyond the period of six months authorized under its resolution 1006 (1995);

8. *Decides*, as an ad hoc arrangement, to apportion the amount referred to in paragraph 7 above among Member States in accordance with the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of General Assembly resolution

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[5] A/50/543.

43/232 of 1 March 1989, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolutions 44/192 B of 21 December 1989, 45/269 of 27 August 1991, 46/198 A of 20 December 1991 and 47/218 A of 23 December 1992 and its decision 48/472 A of 23 December 1993, and taking into account the scale of assessments for the year 1996,[4] subject to the decision of the Security Council to extend the mandate of the Force beyond 31 January 1996 and the mandate periods to be decided upon by the Council;

9. *Decides also* that there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 8 above, their respective share in the estimated income of 4,800 dollars other than staff assessment income for the period from 1 February to 30 April 1996, inclusive;

10. *Decides further* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 8 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 850,800 dollars for the period from 1 February to 30 April 1996, inclusive;

11. *Invites* voluntary contributions to the Force in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure established by the General Assembly in its resolutions 43/230 of 21 December 1988, 44/192 A of 21 December 1989 and 45/258 of 3 May 1991;

12. *Decides* to keep the sub-item entitled "United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon" under the agenda item entitled "Financing of the United Nations peace-keeping forces in the Middle East" under review during its fiftieth session.

95th plenary meeting
19 December 1995

50/90. Financing of the United Nations Mission in Haiti

The General Assembly,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Mission in Haiti[6] and the related reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[7]

Recalling Security Council resolution 1007 (1995) of 31 July 1995, in which the Council extended the mandate of the Mission for an additional period of seven months, to 29 February 1996, in anticipation of the conclusion of the mandate at that time, as well as all previous Security Council resolutions on the Mission,

Recalling also its decision 48/477 of 23 December 1993 on the financing of the Mission and its subsequent resolutions and decisions thereon, the latest of which was decision 50/407 B of 4 December 1995,

Reaffirming that the costs of the Mission are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling further its previous decisions regarding the fact that, in order to meet the expenditures caused by the Mission, a different procedure is required from the one applied to meet expenditures of the regular budget of tl United Nations,

Taking into account the fact that the economically mor developed countries are in a position to make relativel larger contributions and that the economically less deve oped countries have a relatively limited capacity to cor tribute towards such an operation,

Bearing in mind the special responsibilities of the State permanent members of the Security Council, as indicate in General Assembly resolution 1874 (S-IV) of 27 Jur 1963, in the financing of such operations,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Mission with the necessary financial resources to enable it t fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions c the Security Council,

1. *Takes note* of the status of contributions to th United Nations Mission in Haiti as at 13 December 1995 including the unpaid contributions in the amount c 78,677,550 United States dollars, representing 33 per cer of the total assessed contributions from the inception of th Mission to the period ending 30 November 1995, notes tha some 8 per cent of the Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Membe States concerned, particularly those in arrears, to ensure th payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

2. *Expresses concern* about the financial situation wit regard to peace-keeping activities, particularly as regard the reimbursement of troop contributors, notably thos troop-contributing Member States that have paid their assessed contributions in full, which bear an additional burden owing to overdue payments by Member States of thei assessments;

3. *Urges* all Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions t the Mission promptly and in full;

4. *Endorses* the observations and recommendation contained in the reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[7]

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessar action to ensure that the Mission is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

6. *Decides*, as an ad hoc arrangement and taking into account the amount of 2,257,700 dollars gross (2,056,600 dollars net) already apportioned in accordance with General Assembly resolution 48/246 of 5 April 1994 and decision 49/468 of 23 December 1994, to apportion the additional amount of 3,644,800 dollars gross (3,650,500 dollars net) for the period from 1 August 1994 to 31 January 1995 among Member States in accordance with the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of General Assembly resolution 43/232 of 1 March 1989, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolutions 44/192 B of 21 December 1989, 45/269 of 27 August 1991, 46/198 A of 20 December 1991 and 47/218 A of 23 December 1992 and its decision 48/472 A of 23 December 1993, and taking into account the scale of assessments for the year 1994[8] to be applied against a portion thereof, that is, 3,030,730 dollars gross (3,035,470 dollars net), which is the amount pertaining on a pro rata basis to the period ending 31 December 1994, and the scale of assessments for the year 1995[4] to be applied against the balance, that is, 614,070 dollars gross

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[6] A/50/363 and Corr.1 and Add.1.

[7] A/50/488 and Add.1.

[8] See resolutions 46/221 A and 48/223 A and decision 47/456.

(615,030 dollars net), for the period from 1 to 31 January 1995 inclusive;

7. *Decides also* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 6 above, shall take into consideration the decrease in their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 5,700 dollars approved for the Mission for the period from 1 August 1994 to 31 January 1995 inclusive, 4,740 dollars being the amount pertaining on a pro rata basis to the period ending 31 December 1994, and the balance, that is, 960 dollars, for the period from 1 to 31 January 1995;

8. *Decides further* that, for Member States that have fulfilled their financial obligations to the Mission, there shall be set off against the apportionment, as provided for in paragraph 6 above, their respective share in the unencumbered balance of 1,982,600 dollars gross (1,915,700 dollars net) for the period from 1 August 1994 to 31 January 1995;

9. *Decides* that, for Member States that have not fulfilled their financial obligations to the Mission, their share of the unencumbered balance of 1,982,600 dollars gross (1,915,700 dollars net) for the period from 1 August 1994 to 31 January 1995 shall be set off against their outstanding obligations;

10. *Decides* to appropriate to the Special Account for the United Nations Mission in Haiti a total amount of 152,011,500 dollars gross (149,680,400 dollars net) for the period from 1 August 1995 to 29 February 1996, inclusive of the amount of 63,606,720 dollars gross (62,520,120 dollars net) authorized under the provisions of Assembly resolution 49/239 of 31 March 1995 for the period from 1 August to 31 October 1995, the amount of 21,202,240 dollars gross (20,840,040 dollars net) authorized by the Assembly in its decision 50/407 A of 1 November 1995 for the period from 1 to 30 November 1995 and the amount of 10,601,120 dollars gross (10,420,020 dollars net) authorized by the Assembly in its decision 50/407 B for the period from 1 to 15 December 1995;

11. *Decides also*, as an ad hoc arrangement, and taking into account the amount of 21,202,240 dollars gross (20,840,040 dollars net) apportioned in accordance with General Assembly resolution 49/239 and the amount of 63,606,720 dollars gross (62,520,120 dollars net) apportioned in accordance with its decision 50/407 A, to apportion the additional amount of 67,202,540 dollars gross (66,320,240 dollars net) for the period from 1 August 1995 to 29 February 1996 among Member States in accordance with the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of Assembly resolution 43/232 of 1 March 1989, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolutions 44/192 B of 21 December 1989, 45/269 of 27 August 1991, 46/198 A of 20 December 1991, 47/218 A of 23 December 1992, 49/249 A of 20 July 1995 and 49/249 B of 14 September 1995 and its decision 48/472 A of 23 December 1993, and taking into account the scale of assessments for the year 1995[4] to be applied against a portion thereof, that is, 48,272,247 dollars gross (47,638,482 dollars net), which is the amount pertaining on a pro rata basis to the period ending 31 December 1995, and the scale of assessments for the year 1996[4] to be applied against the balance, that is, 18,930,293 dollars gross (18,681,758 dollars net), for the period from 1 January to 29 February 1996 inclusive;

12. *Decides further* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X), there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 10 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the additional estimated staff assessment income of 882,300 dollars approved for the Mission for the period from 1 August 1995 to 29 February 1996 inclusive, 633,765 dollars being the amount pertaining on a pro rata basis to the period ending 31 December 1995, and the balance, that is, 248,535 dollars, for the period from 1 January to 29 February 1996;

13. *Decides* that, for Member States that have fulfilled their financial obligations to the Mission, there shall be set off against the apportionment, as provided for in paragraph 10 above, their respective share in the unencumbered balance of 18,013,200 dollars gross (17,274,700 dollars net) for the period from 1 February to 31 July 1995;

14. *Decides also* that, for Member States that have not fulfilled their financial obligations to the Mission, their share of the unencumbered balance of 18,013,200 dollars gross (17,274,700 dollars net) for the period from 1 February to 31 July 1995 shall be set off against their outstanding obligations;

15. *Decides further*, with regard to the period beyond 29 February 1996, to authorize the Secretary-General to enter into commitments in connection with the maintenance of the Mission for a three-month period from 1 March to 31 May 1996 at a monthly rate not to exceed 10 million dollars gross (9.5 million dollars net) and to assess the amount of 20 million dollars gross (19 million dollars net) on Member States in accordance with the scheme set out in the present resolution, subject to the decision of the Security Council to extend the mandate of the Mission beyond 29 February 1996;

16. *Invites* voluntary contributions to the Mission in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure established by the General Assembly in its resolutions 43/230 of 21 December 1988, 44/192 A of 21 December 1989 and 45/258 of 3 May 1991;

17. *Decides* to keep the agenda item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission in Haiti" under review during its fiftieth session.

95th plenary meeting
19 December 1995

50/204. Financial reports and audited financial statements, and reports of the Board of Auditors

A

The General Assembly,

Having considered, for the year ended 31 December 1994, the financial report and audited financial statements and the report of the Board of Auditors on the United Nations Institute for Training and Research,[9] the audited financial statements and the report of the Board of Auditors on the voluntary funds administered by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,[10] the report on measures taken or to be taken by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in response to the recommendations of the Board of Auditors,[11] and the concise summary of the principal findings, conclusions and recommendations of the Board,[12] as well as the report of the Board of Auditors on the liquidation audit of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia[13] and the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[14]

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[9] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 5D* (A/50/5/Add.4).

[10] Ibid., Supplement No. 5E (A/50/5/Add.5).

Noting the measures taken by the United Nations Institute for Training and Research to give appropriate consideration and attention to the recommendations in earlier audit reports, as commented upon by the Board of Auditors in the annex to its report,[15]

Taking note with concern of the comments of the Board of Auditors regarding measures taken by the Administration of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on follow-up action to implement the recommendations of the Board, contained in the annex to its report,[16]

Stressing the importance of efficient resource management in all United Nations organizations and programmes,

1. *Recognizes* that the Board of Auditors provides the General Assembly with objective information, advice and assurance by conducting its audits in a completely independent and comprehensive manner, as stipulated in regulations 12.5 and 12.6 of the Financial Regulations of the United Nations, and reiterates its appreciation to the Board for the action-oriented and concrete recommendations contained in its reports;

2. *Accepts* the financial reports and audited financial statements and the audit opinions and reports of the Board of Auditors regarding the aforementioned organizations and the liquidation of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia;

3. *Also accepts* the concise summary of principal findings, conclusions and recommendations for remedial action of the Board of Auditors and the comments thereon contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

4. *Deplores* the delays encountered in the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors approved by the General Assembly;

5. *Urges* the Secretary-General to hold programme managers accountable for the implementation of recommendations and to take appropriate measures in cases of non-compliance;

6. *Stresses* the importance of prompt compliance with the recommendations of the Board of Auditors approved by the General Assembly, and reiterates its request to the executive heads of United Nations organizations and programmes to submit to the General Assembly, through the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, before the beginning of formal discussions, reports on measures taken or to be taken in response to the recommendations of the Board, including timetables for their implementation;

7. *Requests* the Board of Auditors to follow up and report at the earliest opportunity on shortcomings in the internal audit coverage of the organizations which it identified in its earlier report,[17] with a view to determining whether its recommendations have been implemented and the situation rectified, following the establishment of the Office of Internal Oversight Services;

8. *Recalls* that, in its resolution 49/216 C of 23 December 1994, it requested the Secretary-General to submit a report, through the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, containing proposals for the improvement of the procurement activities of the Secretariat, and urges the Advisory Committee to submit its report to the General Assembly as soon as possible to enable it to consider these reports and decide on further necessary action before the end of its fiftieth session;

9. *Requests* the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and all other entities for which the main source of income is voluntary contributions and which account for them on an accrual basis to provide annually, or upon request, more precise and transparent information on the cash situation of these entities in their reports to the General Assembly at its fifty-first and subsequent sessions;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consider measures to ensure appropriate audit coverage of jointly financed administrative activities, to consider the most appropriate way to present to the General Assembly the financial, administrative and management information related to these activities, and to report thereon to the Assembly during its resumed fiftieth session.

100th plenary meeting
23 December 1995

B

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 48/216 A of 23 December 1993, especially paragraph 6 thereof, as well as paragraph 2 of its resolution 48/216 C of 23 December 1993,

Reaffirming that the rectification of deficiencies and irregularities identified by the Board of Auditors will enhance the effective exercise of the functions of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in providing international protection for refugees and will strengthen as well its crucial role in seeking solutions to refugee problems,

1. *Expresses serious concern* about the findings in the report of the Board of Auditors on the voluntary funds administered by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,[10] especially those concerning management issues, such as the continuing problems of the lack of adequate managerial control over the programmes carried out by implementing partners;

2. *Expresses particular concern* about the persistent nature of various problems and the non-implementation of the previous recommendations of the Board of Auditors;

3. *Requests* the High Commissioner to implement as a matter of urgency the recommendations of the Board of Auditors, taking into account the views expressed by the Member States and keeping the Board fully informed of the ongoing measures taken, and requests the Board to re-

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[11] A/50/704, annex.

[12] A/50/327, annex.

[13] A/49/943, annex.

[14] A/50/560.

[15] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 5D* (A/50/5/Add.4), sect. II.

[16] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5E* (A/50/5/Add.5), sect. I.

[17] Ibid., *Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 5* and corrigendum (A/47/5 and Corr.1), vol. I, paras. 288-310.

port thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session;

4. *Also requests* the High Commissioner to work out and put in place, as a matter of urgency, procedures enhancing the efficiency of implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors;

5. *Further requests* the High Commissioner to review with due diligence the content of the audit report, submitted to her before its issuance, in order to ensure the quality of the information issued for the use of the Member States;

6. *Notes with appreciation* that in the programme of work for 1996 recently adopted by the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees for its Standing Committee, the follow-up by the High Commissioner to the observations and recommendations of the Board of Auditors will be addressed in a systematic manner, in particular regarding issues related to implementing partners;

7. *Reiterates its request* that the Secretary-General and the executive heads of the United Nations organizations, funds and programmes comply with the common accounting standards approved by the General Assembly and that they address the specific recommendations made by the Board of Auditors in this regard;[18]

8. *Requests* the High Commissioner to amend the term "funds available" in statement II of the audited financial statements of the voluntary funds administered by the High Commissioner, and in its annex,[19] in order to correct the financial information disclosed and to reflect more accurately the financial resources available.

100th plenary meeting
23 December 1995

C

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 47/211 of 23 December 1992 and 48/216 B of 23 December 1993, as well as previous relevant resolutions,

Noting that the responses requested in the aforementioned resolutions have not been received,

Noting with concern the numerous weaknesses highlighted by the Board of Auditors in its report on the liquidation of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia,[13] especially as far as inventories are concerned,

Deeply concerned by the delays encountered in liquidating the Transitional Authority,

Bearing in mind that a number of peace-keeping operations are expected to be scaled down and liquidated during the next twelve months,

Taking note of the observation of the Board of Auditors in its report that there is at present no policy on the valuation and transfer of costs of assets between missions,

Noting the absence of standard procedures for the transfer and acknowledgement of assets between missions and United Nations entities,

Noting also that the Board of Auditors has recommended the establishment of appropriate policies and procedures for the valuation, transfer and disposal of assets of missions for consistent application in peace-keeping operations,

1. *Notes with regret* that the Secretary-General has not yet completed the feasibility study on procedures for the valuation and transfer of costs of assets redeployed from a peace-keeping operation in liquidation to other operations or United Nations bodies, as requested by the General Assembly in its resolution 49/233 A of 23 December 1994;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to proceed with all urgency to complete the study mentioned in paragraph 1 above and submit it to the General Assembly at the earliest opportunity during the first part of its resumed fiftieth session;

3. *Takes note with concern* of the findings of the Board of Auditors on the audit of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia and the need for an additional review as a consequence of the many unresolved administrative and financial issues involved and the incomplete nature of the liquidation documentation available to the Board;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to study the most expeditious and cost-effective ways of liquidating peace-keeping operations and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its resumed fiftieth session;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to take immediate action to implement the recommendations of the Board of Auditors, keeping the Board fully informed regarding the measures being taken, and requests the Board to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session;

6. *Regrets* the absence of a report on measures taken or proposed to be taken by the Secretariat in response to the recommendations contained in the report of the Board of Auditors;[13]

7. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to submit such a report to the General Assembly, through the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, before the beginning of the first part of its resumed fiftieth session, containing, *inter alia*, proposals for establishing:

(*a*) An appropriate policy for the physical verification of all assets and liabilities of a mission in liquidation before its assets are disposed of and its liabilities discharged;

(*b*) Standard procedures for the transfer of assets and the acknowledgement of assets transferred to other missions and other United Nations entities;

(*c*) Standard procedures for the valuation of all assets of a mission in liquidation as well as an appropriate policy for the financial accounting of transfers of assets for consistent application in all peace-keeping operations;

8. *Appeals* to Member States to pay their assessed and pledged contributions as soon as possible, in order to facilitate the completion of the liquidation process.

100th plenary meeting
23 December 1995

D

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 47/211 of 23 December 1992 and 48/216 B of 23 December 1993, as well as previous relevant resolutions,

1. *Regrets* the delay in the submission of a report on measures taken or proposed to be taken by the United Nations Institute for Training and Research in response to

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[18] A/49/214, annex.

[19] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 5E* (A/50/5/Add.5), chap. III, statement II and annex.

the recommendations of the Board of Auditors for the year ended 31 December 1994;

2. *Requests* the Institute to submit such reports in a timely manner in order to allow Member States to consider them properly before the beginning of formal discussions during future sessions of the General Assembly.

100th plenary meeting
23 December 1995

50/205. Programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995

A

FINAL BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE BIENNIUM 1994-1995

The General Assembly

Resolves that for the biennium 1994-1995:

1. The amount of 2,608,274,400 United States dollars appropriated by its resolution 49/220 A of 23 December 1994 shall be adjusted by 24,160,900 dollars as follows:

Section	*Amount approved by resolution 49/220 A*	*Increase or (decrease)*	*Revised appropriation*
		(United States dollars)	
PART I. *Overall policy-making, direction and coordination*			
1. Overall policy-making, direction and coordination	37 218 500	766 600	37 985 100
TOTAL, PART I	37 218 500	766 600	37 985 100
PART II. *Political affairs*			
3. Political affairs	66 116 200	(1 671 700)	64 444 500
4. Peace-keeping operations and special missions	132 221 900	23 584 900	155 806 800
TOTAL, PART II	198 338 100	21 913 200	220 251 300
PART III. *International justice and law*			
5. International Court of Justice	19 316 000	2 041 600	21 357 600
7. Legal activities	31 432 500	(781 900)	30 650 600
TOTAL, PART III	50 748 500	1 259 700	52 008 200
PART IV. *International cooperation for development*			
8. Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development	51 556 600	(3 586 400)	47 970 200
9. Department for Economic and Social Information and Policy Analysis	46 225 900	1 016 500	47 242 400
10. Department for Development Support and Management Services	25 961 400	2 657 100	28 618 500
11A. United Nations Conference on Trade and Development	113 579 800	665 200	114 245 000
11B. International Trade Centre UNCTAD/GATT	20 942 300	(107 800)	20 834 500
12A. United Nations Environment Programme	14 277 900	(2 417 100)	11 860 800
12B. United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)	15 176 500	(2 122 100)	13 054 400
13. Crime control	4 839 700	(233 400)	4 606 300
14. International drug control	14 693 900	346 200	15 040 100
TOTAL, PART IV	307 254 000	(3 781 800)	303 472 200
PART V. *Regional cooperation for development*			
15. Economic Commission for Africa	71 657 600	(2 485 600)	69 172 000
16. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific	61 278 400	(4 309 300)	56 969 100
17. Economic Commission for Europe	47 379 300	234 900	47 614 200
18. Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean	78 979 400	(5 075 300)	73 904 100
19. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia	35 213 100	(5 041 500)	30 171 600
20. Regular programme of technical cooperation	44 814 700	(6 413 800)	38 400 900
TOTAL, PART V	339 322 500	(23 090 600)	316 231 900

Section	*Amount approved by resolution 49/220 A*	*Increase or (decrease)*	*Revised appropriation*
	(United States dollars)		
PART VI. *Human rights and humanitarian affairs*			
21. Human rights	43 708 200	(3 399 500)	40 308 700
22A. Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees	48 572 700	2 487 300	51 060 000
22B. United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East	21 350 300	750 600	22 100 900
23. Department of Humanitarian Affairs	19 034 700	(1 118 200)	17 916 500
TOTAL, PART VI	132 665 900	(1 279 800)	131 386 100
PART VII. *Public information*			
24. Public information	131 442 600	2 116 400	133 559 000
TOTAL, PART VII	131 442 600	2 116 400	133 559 000
PART VIII. *Common support services*			
25. Administration and management	896 820 800	23 547 700	920 368 500
TOTAL, PART VIII	896 820 800	23 547 700	920 368 500
PART IX. *Jointly financed activities and special expenses*			
26. Jointly financed administrative activities	27 221 200	(1 052 700)	26 168 500
27. Special expenses	32 795 100	273 900	33 069 000
TOTAL, PART IX	60 016 300	(778 800)	59 237 500
PART X. *Staff assessment*			
28. Staff assessment	357 798 100	5 775 900	363 574 000
TOTAL, PART X	357 798 100	5 775 900	363 574 000
PART XI. *Capital expenditures*			
29. Technological innovations	25 398 300	101 200	25 499 500
30. Construction, alteration, improvement and major maintenance	58 447 100	(1 530 400)	56 916 700
TOTAL, PART XI	83 845 400	(1 429 200)	82 416 200
PART XII. *Internal oversight services*			
31. Office of Internal Oversight Services	12 027 700	(716 800)	11 310 900
TOTAL, PART XII	12 027 700	(716 800)	11 310 900
PART XIII. *International Seabed Authority*			
32. International Seabed Authority	776 000	(141 600)	634 400
TOTAL, PART XIII	776 000	(141 600)	634 400
GRAND TOTAL	2 608 274 400	24 160 900	2 632 435 300

2. The Secretary-General shall be authorized to transfer credits between sections of the budget, with the concurrence of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

3. The total net provision made under the various sections of the budget for contractual printing shall be administered as a unit under the direction of the United Nations Publications Board;

4. The appropriations for the regular programme of technical cooperation under section 20, part V, shall be administered in accordance with the Financial Regulations of the United Nations, except that the definition of obligations and the period of validity of obligations shall be subject to the following procedures:

(*a*) Obligations for personal services established in the current biennium shall be valid for the succeeding biennium, provided that appointments of the experts concerned are effected by the end of the current biennium and that the total period to be covered by obligations established for these purposes against the resources of the current biennium does not exceed twenty-four months;

(*b*) Obligations established in the current biennium for fellowships shall remain valid until liquidated, provided that the fellow has been nominated by the requesting Government and accepted by the Organization and that a formal letter of award has been issued to the requesting Government;

(*c*) Obligations in respect of contracts or purchase orders for supplies or equipment recorded in the current biennium will remain valid until payment is effected to the contractor or vendor, unless they are cancelled;

5. In addition to the appropriations approved under paragraph 1 above, an amount of 51,000 dollars is appropriated for each year of the biennium 1994-1995 from the accumulated income of the Library Endowment Fund for the purchase of books, periodicals, maps and library equipment and for such other expenses of the Library at the Palais des Nations as are in accordance with the objects and provisions of the endowment.

100th plenary meeting
23 December 1995

B

FINAL INCOME ESTIMATES FOR THE BIENNIUM 1994-1995

The General Assembly

Resolves that for the biennium 1994-1995:

1. The estimates of income of 432,080,500 United States dollars approved by its resolution 49/220 B of 23 December 1994 shall be increased by 4,786,100 dollars as follows:

	Amount approved by resolution 49/220 B	*Increase or (decrease)*	*Revised estimates*
		(United States dollars)	
Income section			
1. Income from staff assessment	363 216 700	5 732 900	368 949 600
TOTAL, INCOME SECTION 1	363 216 700	5 732 900	368 949 600
2. General income	60 929 800	8 580 200	69 510 000
3. Services to the public	7 934 000	(9 527 000)	(1 593 000)
TOTAL, INCOME SECTIONS 2 AND 3	68 863 800	(946 800)	67 917 000
GRAND TOTAL	432 080 500	4 786 100	436 866 600

2. The income from staff assessment shall be credited to the Tax Equalization Fund in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955;

3. Direct expenses of the United Nations Postal Administration, services to visitors, catering and related services, garage operations, television services and the sale of publications, not provided for under the budget appropriations, shall be charged against the income derived from those activities.

100th plenary meeting
23 December 1995

50/206. Pattern of conferences

A

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Committee on Conferences,[20]

Recalling its relevant resolutions, including resolutions 43/222 B of 21 December 1988, 46/190 of 20 December 1991, 47/202 A to D of 22 December 1992, 48/222 A and B of 23 December 1993 and 49/221 A to D of 23 December 1994,

Noting with concern the difficulties encountered by some Member States owing to the lack of conference services for meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States,

1. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the Committee on Conferences;

2. *Approves* the draft calendar of conferences and meetings of the United Nations for the biennium 1996-1997 as submitted[21] and amended by the Committee on Conferences;[22]

3. *Authorizes* the Committee on Conferences to make adjustments in the calendar of conferences and meetings for 1996 that may become necessary as a result of actions and decisions taken by the General Assembly at its fiftieth session;

4. *Notes* that no sessions are scheduled to open or close on 20 February and 29 April 1996, invites United Nations bodies to avoid holding meetings on 20 February and 29 April 1996, and requests the Secretariat to make similar arrangements when drafting the revised calendar of conferences and meetings for 1997;

5. *Invites* the Economic and Social Council to continue to consider, as appropriate, the biennialization of meetings of its subsidiary bodies;

6. *Invites* all bodies to exercise restraint in requesting open-ended ad hoc meetings in view of the possible adverse effect of such meetings on the efficient utilization of conference-servicing resources;

7. *Expresses concern* that the overall utilization factor for conference services fell below the established benchmark figure of 80 per cent in 1994;

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[20] Ibid., *Supplement No. 32* and addenda (A/50/32 and Add.1 and 2).

[21] Ibid., *Supplement No. 32* (A/50/32), annex II.A.

[22] Ibid., *Supplement No. 32* (A/50/32), addenda (A/50/32/Add.1 and 2).

8. *Endorses* the initiatives taken by the Chairman of the Committee on Conferences with a view to assisting bodies to achieve the optimum utilization of conference-servicing resources and, to that effect, to assess realistically their need for such resources;

9. *Requests* the Secretariat to take the measures recommended by the Committee on Conferences to enhance utilization of conference-servicing resources and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session through the Committee;

10. *Expresses concern* about the underutilization of conference facilities at duty stations outside Headquarters, and emphasizes the need to make the most effective use possible of such facilities;

11. *Requests* the Chairman of the Committee on Conferences to hold consultations with various bodies and committees to ensure rational allocation and capacity utilization of all United Nations conference facilities at Headquarters, United Nations Offices and other duty stations with a view to addressing the present imbalance in order to enhance the capacity utilization and cost-effectiveness of these facilities and to report to the Committee on the outcome of these consultations at its substantive session of 1996;

12. *Decides* that the headquarters rule shall be adhered to by all bodies, particularly those whose headquarters are underutilized;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide, within the resources approved for conference services in the biennium 1996-1997, interpretation services for meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States upon request by those groupings, taking into account the priority due to meetings included in the calendar of conferences and meetings, and to submit a report on the implementation of this decision to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session through the Committee on Conferences.

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B

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions on the control and limitation of documentation, including resolutions 33/56 of 14 December 1978, 36/117 B of 10 December 1981, 37/14 C of 16 November 1982, 45/238 B of 21 December 1990, 47/202 B of 22 December 1992, 48/222 B of 23 December 1993 and 49/221 B of 23 December 1994,

Encouraging all bodies entitled to written meeting records to keep under review their need for such records,

1. *Decides*, pursuant to paragraph 3 of resolution 49/221 B, that the current entitlement to meeting records of the following bodies shall be continued:

(*a*) United Nations Administrative Tribunal (when holding oral hearings);

(*b*) First Committee;

(*c*) Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People (when holding meetings in observance of international days of solidarity proclaimed by the General Assembly);

(*d*) Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees;

2. *Approves* the recommendation of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to replace its verbatim records by summary records;[23]

3. *Notes* the intention of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space to replace its verbatim records by unedited transcripts,[24] and requests the Committee to keep the General Assembly informed, through the Committee on Conferences, of its experience regarding unedited transcripts;

4. *Takes note* of the decision of the Committee on Conferences contained in paragraph 75 of its report,[25] and requests the Committee to report on the implementation of that decision to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session.

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C

The General Assembly,

Taking note of the statement made by the representative of the Secretary-General to the Fifth Committee on 10 October 1995 on, *inter alia*, the costs of documentation,[26]

Recognizing the right of Member States, through intergovernmental bodies, to request reports,

Recognizing that Member States can contribute directly to the reduction of documentation, which contributes to savings, through restraint in making such requests,

Recognizing also that the reduction in the demand for, and volume of, documentation could improve the quality and timeliness of reports,

Noting that Economic and Social Council decision 1995/222 of 5 May 1995, entitled "Documentation", requires Secretariat accountability regarding seriously tardy reports,

Noting also that some actions taken by the Committee on Conferences and the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space can result in lower documentation costs, while noting further that the political and financial impact of such actions has to be assessed by the General Assembly,

Recognizing the right of Member States to request circulation of communications as official documents,

1. *Notes with concern* that the existing limits of 32 pages and 24 pages for documents prepared for intergovernmental meetings, confirmed by its resolution 36/117 A of 10 December 1981 and endorsed by its resolution 38/32 E of 25 November 1983, respectively, are not routinely enforced;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to enforce, where appropriate, the existing page limits referred to in paragraph 1 above in respect of all documents originating in the Secretariat, to review these limits, where appropriate, with a view to achieving an overall reduction of documentation without affecting its quality and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session through the Committee on Conferences;

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[23] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/50/23), chap. I, para. 56.

[24] Ibid., *Supplement No. 20* (A/50/20), para. 180.

[25] Ibid., *Supplement No. 32* (A/50/32).

[26] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Fifth Committee*, 4th meeting, and corrigendum.

3. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to include only where necessary brief descriptions of the history of the subjects contained in the reports together with a reference to relevant documents, bearing in mind the need to restrict the number of pages to the limits referred to in paragraph 1 above;

4. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that documentation is available in accordance with the six-week rule for the distribution of documents, simultaneously in each of the six official languages of the United Nations;

5. *Decides* that, should a report be issued late, the reasons for the delay should be indicated when the report is introduced;

6. *Requests* members of all bodies to exercise restraint in making proposals containing requests for new reports;

7. *Invites* all bodies to consider the possibility of biennializing or triennializing the presentation of reports, to review the necessity of all recurrent documents with a view to streamlining documentation and contributing to savings and to make appropriate recommendations;

8. *Encourages* members of intergovernmental bodies:

(*a*) To consider the possibility of requesting oral reports, without prejudice to the provision of information to delegations in all the official languages;

(*b*) To request consolidated reports on related topics under a single item or sub-item where appropriate and cost-effective;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(*a*) To provide an oral estimate of the cost of documents or reports requested by Member States, without prejudice to the right of intergovernmental bodies to request such documents or reports;

(*b*) To seek a more reader-friendly and uniform format of reports, taking into account new publishing technologies that would include sections containing the objective of the report, an executive summary, the conclusions drawn and, as appropriate, the action proposed to be taken by the body, and to submit proposals thereon to the General Assembly through the Committee on Conferences;

10. *Endorses* the recommendation made by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions that the Joint Inspection Unit be requested to conduct a comprehensive survey of the role publications play in implementing mandates of intergovernmental bodies and the extent to which recurrent publications could be made more cost-effective in this regard;[27]

11. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to present to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session, through the Committee on Conferences and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, a report on the implementation of these measures, including information on possible savings.

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D

The General Assembly,

Stressing the need to provide Member States and United Nations bodies, upon request, with more comprehensive and accurate information on the costs of meetings and documentation,

Noting that the introduction of new technologies enhances the quality, cost-effectiveness and efficiency of conference services,

Stressing also the importance of access to, and benefit from, the optical disk system and other new technologies in all official languages by all Member States and the need to overcome the difficulties faced by some Member States in acquiring the technology to access the optical disk system,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to develop as soon as possible a comprehensive and accurate cost-accounting system for conference services, to report on the progress of its implementation to the General Assembly through the Committee on Conferences and to report the results of its use to the Assembly through the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, in accordance with their respective mandates;

2. *Encourages* the Secretariat to continue its efforts to improve the cost-effectiveness of document production, without prejudice to the international character of the Organization;

3. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to present proposals to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session through the Committee on Conferences on facilitating access by developing countries to the optical disk system in all official languages, taking into account the possible savings from reduced copying and distribution costs;

4. *Further requests* the Secretary-General, in pursuing the foregoing efforts, to ensure that new technologies in the area of conference services are introduced in all official languages as soon as possible in a comprehensive manner without adverse effects on the provision of services, in full consultation with Member States and, as appropriate, in coordination with relevant intergovernmental bodies.

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23 December 1995

E

The General Assembly,

Recalling all its previous resolutions on the use of languages in the United Nations, including resolutions 2 (I) of 1 February 1946, 2247 (XXI) of 20 December 1966, 2292 (XXII) of 8 December 1967, 3189 (XXVIII), 3190 (XXVIII) and 3191 (XXVIII) of 18 December 1973, 36/117 B of 10 December 1981, 47/202 D of 22 December 1992, 49/221 B of 23 December 1994 and 50/11 of 2 November 1995,

Recalling also its request to the Secretariat, contained in resolution 49/221 C of 23 December 1994, to continue exploring ways and means of providing conference services in a manner that fully responds to the needs of intergovernmental and expert bodies, while ensuring the criteria of quality and timeliness and due respect for the principle of equal treatment of the official languages of the United Nations as laid down in General Assembly resolution 42/207 C of 11 December 1987,

1. *Emphasizes* the need for strict compliance with the resolutions and rules establishing language arrangements for the different bodies and organs of the United Nations;

2. *Stresses* the need to continue to ensure the availability of the necessary resources to guarantee the timely trans-

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[27] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 7* and corrigendum (A/50/7 and Corr.1), para. 83.

lation of documents into the different official and working languages of the Organization and their simultaneous distribution in those languages;

3. *Appreciates* the fact that, through advanced technology as well as improved management and increased productivity, the Secretariat has largely been enabled to cope with the growth in demand for translation and documentation services;

4. *Notes* the actions taken to improve the quality of translation into all official languages, in particular the efforts of the Arabic Translation Service to implement the proposal contained in annex II to the report of the Committee on Conferences to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session,[28] requests the Secretary-General to undertake a thorough review of the terminology and technical methods used in translation into Arabic, and urges the Secretariat to speed up its efforts towards the implementation of phase II of that proposal and to report thereon to the Committee on Conferences at its substantive session of 1996.

100th plenary meeting
23 December 1995

F

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 49/221 D of 23 December 1994,

Noting with satisfaction the significant improvements in the meeting arrangements and facilities within the United Nations premises for the holding of bilateral meetings and contacts among Member States during the fiftieth session of the General Assembly and during the special commemorative meeting of the Assembly on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General and the Secretariat for their prompt and effective actions to implement resolution 49/221 D;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide these improved meeting arrangements and facilities for subsequent sessions of the General Assembly;

3. *Decides* that such improved meeting arrangements and facilities shall be made available within existing resources.

100th plenary meeting
23 December 1995

50/207. Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Noting the requests by Azerbaijan, Comoros, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liberia, Sao Tome and Principe, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan that, as an exceptional measure, any arrears in respect of assessed contributions for the regular budget of the United Nations, peace-keeping operations or international tribunals as at 1 January 1996 and for 1996 be treated as being attributable to conditions beyond their control and that, accordingly, the question of the application of Article 19 of the Charter of the United Nations should not arise,

1. *Recognizes* the importance of requests with respect to the application of Article 19 of the Charter of the United Nations being considered by the Committee on Contributions in accordance with rule 160 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly;

2. *Requests* the Committee to hold a special session of one week's duration as early as possible in 1996 to consider representations from Member States with respect to the application of Article 19 of the Charter and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its resumed fiftieth session pursuant to rule 160 of the rules of procedure;

3. *Invites* Member States to submit detailed information to the Committee in explanation of their requests as soon as possible so as to facilitate the work of the Committee;

4. *Decides* to consider the report of the Committee on this matter as early as possible during its resumed fiftieth session.

100th plenary meeting
23 December 1995

50/208. United Nations common system: report of the International Civil Service Commission

The General Assembly,

Having considered the twenty-first annual report of the International Civil Service Commission[29] and other related reports,[30]

Reaffirming its commitment to a single unified United Nations common system as the cornerstone for the regulation and coordination of the conditions of service of the United Nations common system,

Reaffirming the central role of the Commission in the regulation and coordination of the conditions of service of the United Nations common system,

Taking note of the statement of the Administrative Committee on Coordination[31] and of the introductory statement of the Secretary-General regarding the report of the Commission,[32]

I

CONDITIONS OF SERVICE OF THE PROFESSIONAL AND HIGHER CATEGORIES

A. *Examination of the Noblemaire principle and its application*

Recalling its resolutions related to the study of all aspects of the application of the Noblemaire principle,[33]

Recalling also section I.B of its resolution 44/198 of 21 December 1989, by which it reaffirmed that the Noblemaire principle should continue to serve as the basis of comparison between United Nations emoluments and those of the highest-paying civil service,

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[28] Ibid., *Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 32* (A/49/32/Rev.1).

[29] Ibid., *Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 30* (A/50/30).

[30] A/C.5/50/5, A/C.5/50/11, A/C.5/50/23, A/C.5/50/24 and Corr.1 and A/C.5/50/29.

[31] A/C.5/50/11, annex.

[32] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Fifth Committee*, 28th meeting, and corrigendum.

[33] Resolution 46/191 A, sects. IV and VI; resolution 47/216, sect. II.C; resolution 48/224, sects. II.A and B; and resolution 49/223, sect. III.A.

Taking note of chapter III of the report of the International Civil Service Commission[29] in respect of grade equivalencies with the comparator civil service, the evolution of the margin, the identification of the highest-paid national civil service and the collection of reference data from other international organizations, as well as the views expressed thereon by Member States in the Fifth Committee of the General Assembly,

Reconfirming the continued application of the Noblemaire principle,

Reaffirming the need to continue to ensure the competitiveness of the United Nations common system conditions of service,

1. *Decides* to defer its consideration of chapter III.A of the report of the International Civil Service Commission until its resumed fiftieth session, and requests the Commission to review its recommendations and conclusions, taking into account the views expressed by Member States in the Fifth Committee of the General Assembly, in particular regarding the appropriateness of reduction of dominance and the treatment of bonuses in determining net remuneration comparisons, so as to assist in that consideration, and to adjust its programme of work accordingly;

2. *Takes note* of the results of the study to identify the highest-paid national civil service, as set out in paragraph 172 (*b*) of the report of the Commission, bearing in mind the views expressed thereon by the Member State concerned;

3. *Requests* the Commission and the national civil service authorities concerned to resolve the outstanding difficulties in comparing differently designed civil services and grading systems, within the approved methodology, and to clarify the conclusions set out in paragraph 172 (*b*) (ii) and (iii) of its report, in order to complete the study on the highest-paid national civil service, and to report thereon to the General Assembly;

4. *Takes note also* of the recruitment and retention problems faced by some organizations in respect of certain specialized occupations, recalls its endorsement in principle of the use of special occupational rates in organizations with problems of recruitment and retention, and, in this context, requests the organizations to collect data to substantiate those problems, and the Commission to make recommendations regarding the conditions for the application of such rates, as appropriate;

B. *Post adjustment matters*

Recalling its request in section II.G of its resolution 48/224 of 23 December 1993, regarding place-to-place surveys conducted at headquarters duty stations,

Taking note of the decisions reached by the International Civil Service Commission in paragraphs 280, 294, 296 and 297 of its report in respect of the operation of the post adjustment system,

1. *Welcomes* the establishment by the International Civil Service Commission of a working group to examine the post adjustment system;

2. *Requests* the Commission to establish in 1996, in respect of staff members whose duty station is Geneva, a single post adjustment index which is fully representative of the cost of living of all staff working in the duty station and which ensures equality of treatment with staff in other headquarters duty stations;

3. *Also requests* the Commission to address and refer to its working group on post adjustment, as appropriate, the concerns raised by Member States in the Fifth Committee regarding the operation of the post adjustment system, including, *inter alia*, the issue of the post adjustment at the base of the common system, management of the differential in net remuneration between the common system and its comparator, developments in the comparator civil service and the possible partial phasing out of the expatriate elements of the margin for staff with long service at one duty station, and requests the Commission to review all the issues relating to the post adjustment system based on the study by its working group and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session;

II

GENERAL SERVICE AND OTHER LOCALLY RECRUITED CATEGORIES

Recalling section III, paragraph 1, of its resolution 47/216 of 23 December 1992, in which it endorsed the reaffirmation by the International Civil Service Commission of the Flemming principle as the basis for the determination of conditions of service of the General Service and related categories,

Recalling also section IV.A of its resolution 49/223 of 23 December 1994, by which it requested the Commission to proceed with the current round of surveys at headquarters duty stations,

1. *Notes* that the International Civil Service Commission will provide a further report on the methodology for surveys of best prevailing local conditions of employment at headquarters duty stations following the completion of the comprehensive review of the salary survey methodology in 1997;

2. *Requests* the Commission, as part of its review of the methodology for salary setting for staff in the General Service and other locally recruited categories, to resolve, to the extent possible, inconsistencies between this methodology and the one which is applied pursuant to the Noblemaire principle, *inter alia*, by examining the question of overlap in remuneration between the two categories;

3. *Takes note* of the results of the salary surveys in New York, Geneva and Rome as reported in chapter IV of the report of the Commission;[29]

III

WORK PROGRAMME

Recalling section V, paragraph 2, of its resolution 48/224, in which it urged the International Civil Service Commission to devote further attention to personnel management issues,

1. *Requests* the International Civil Service Commission to examine means of reducing the costs of its studies;

2. *Also requests* the Commission and the executive heads of the organizations of the United Nations common system to ensure that adequate attention is given to all aspects of human resources management, including the improvement of non-monetary aspects of conditions of service, as set out, for example, in article 14 of the statute of the Commission;

3. *Further requests* the Commission to give priority to the matters addressed in section I of the present resolution in its programme of work;

IV

FUNCTIONING OF THE COMMISSION

Recalling section II, paragraph 5, of its resolution 49/223, in which it requested the staff bodies, the organizations and the International Civil Service Commission to review with all urgency how the consultative process of the Commission could best be furthered and to report thereon to the General Assembly,

1. *Reaffirms* the validity of the statute of the International Civil Service Commission and in particular article 6 thereof, whereby its members shall perform their functions in full independence and with impartiality;

2. *Welcomes* the Commission's decision, as contained in paragraphs 54 to 56 of its report,[29] to implement a number of measures to improve its effectiveness and to introduce, on a trial basis, revised arrangements for the timing and length of its sessions, and, in that context, requests the Commission to enhance further the transparency of its work, taking into account the relevant articles of the statute and its rules of procedure;

3. *Calls upon* Member States and the Secretary-General, in the context of articles 3 and 4 of the statute of the Commission, to ensure through the selection process of candidates for appointment that the Commission has the requisite technical skills and broad managerial experience among its membership;

4. *Notes* that the representatives of the Coordinating Committee for International Staff Unions and Associations of the United Nations System and the Federation of International Civil Servants' Associations have both suspended participation in the work of the Commission, and calls upon those bodies to resume participation in the work of the Commission in a spirit of cooperation and non-confrontation;

5. *Requests* the Commission to ensure that its reports contain clear and readily understandable explanations of its technical recommendations.

100th plenary meeting
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50/209. Financing of the United Nations Angola Verification Mission

The General Assembly,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Angola Verification Mission[34] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[35]

Bearing in mind Security Council resolution 626 (1988) of 20 December 1988, by which the Council established the United Nations Angola Verification Mission, resolution 696 (1991) of 30 May 1991, by which the Council decided to entrust a new mandate to the United Nations Angola Verification Mission (thenceforth called the United Nations Angola Verification Mission II), resolution 976 (1995) of 8 February 1995, by which the Council authorized the establishment of a peace-keeping operation in Angola (thenceforth called the United Nations Angola Verification Mission III), and resolution 1008 (1995) of 7 August 1995, in which the Council extended the mandate of the Verification Mission until 8 February 1996,

Recalling its resolution 43/231 of 16 February 1989 on the financing of the Verification Mission, and its subsequent resolutions and decisions thereon, the latest of which was resolution 49/227 B of 20 July 1995,

Reaffirming that the costs of the Verification Mission are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling also its previous decisions regarding the fact that, in order to meet the expenditures caused by the Verification Mission, a different procedure is required from the one applied to meet expenditures of the regular budget of the United Nations,

Taking into account the fact that the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions and that the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards such an operation,

Bearing in mind the special responsibilities of the States permanent members of the Security Council, as indicated in General Assembly resolution 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, in the financing of such operations,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Verification Mission with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

Concerned that the Secretary-General continues to face difficulties in meeting the obligations of the Verification Mission on a current basis, including reimbursement to current and former troop-contributing States,

1. *Takes note* of the status of contributions to the United Nations Angola Verification Mission as at 19 December 1995, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 38,878,476 United States dollars, representing 10 per cent of the total assessed contributions from the inception of the Verification Mission to the period ending 31 December 1995, notes that some 21 per cent of the Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States concerned, particularly those in arrears, to ensure the payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

2. *Expresses concern* about the financial situation with regard to peace-keeping activities, particularly as regards the reimbursement of troop contributors, notably those troop-contributing Member States that have paid their assessed contributions in full, which bear an additional burden owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

3. *Urges* all Member States to make every possible effort to ensure the payment of their assessed contributions to the Verification Mission promptly and in full;

4. *Endorses* the observations and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[35]

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Verification Mission is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

6. *Decides* to appropriate to the Special Account for the United Nations Angola Verification Mission the additional amount of 34,851,497 dollars gross (36,216,158 dollars net) for the financing of the Verification Mission for

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[34] A/50/651 and Add.1 and 2.

[35] A/50/814.

the period from 9 February to 31 December 1995, in addition to the appropriation of 150,000,000 dollars gross (148,000,000 dollars net) and the commitment authority of 65,912,903 dollars gross (63,067,742 dollars net) already apportioned under the terms of Assembly resolution 49/227 B;

7. *Decides also*, as an ad hoc arrangement, and taking into account the amounts already apportioned, as provided for in paragraph 6 above, to apportion the additional amount of 34,851,497 dollars gross (36,216,158 dollars net) for the period from 9 February to 31 December 1995 among Member States in accordance with the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of Assembly resolution 43/232 of 1 March 1989, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolutions 44/192 B of 21 December 1989, 45/269 of 27 August 1991, 46/198 A of 20 December 1991 and 47/218 A of 23 December 1992 and its decisions 48/472 A of 23 December 1993 and 50/451 B of 23 December 1995, and taking into account the scale of assessments for the year 1995;

8. *Decides further* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 7 above, shall take into consideration the decrease in their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 1,364,661 dollars approved for the Verification Mission for the period from 9 February to 31 December 1995, inclusive;

9. *Decides* that, for Member States that have fulfilled their financial obligations to the Mission, there shall be set off against the apportionment, as provided for in paragraph 7 above, their respective share in the unencumbered balance of 537,900 dollars gross (502,400 dollars net) for the period from 1 October 1994 to 8 February 1995;

10. *Decides also* that, for Member States that have not fulfilled their financial obligations to the Verification Mission, their share of the unencumbered balance of 537,900 dollars gross (502,400 dollars net) for the period from 1 October 1994 to 8 February 1995 shall be set off against their outstanding obligations;

11. *Decides further* to appropriate to the Special Account the amount of 36,698,400 dollars gross (36,049,700 dollars net) for the maintenance of the Verification Mission for the period from 1 January to 8 February 1996;

12. *Decides*, as an ad hoc arrangement, to apportion the amount of 36,698,400 dollars gross (36,049,700 dollars net) for the period from 1 January to 8 February 1996 among Member States in accordance with the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of Assembly resolution 43/232, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolutions 44/192 B, 45/269, 46/198 A and 47/218 A and its decisions 48/472 A and 50/451 B, and taking into account the scale of assessments for the year 1996;

13. *Decides also* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 12 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 648,700 dollars approved for the Verification Mission for the period from 1 January to 8 February 1996, inclusive;

14. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to enter into commitments for the maintenance of the Verification Mission at a rate not to exceed 28,229,100 dollars gross (27,730,100 dollars net) per month until 30 June 1996 and to assess the amount of 76,218,600 dollars gross (74,871,300 dollars net) for the period from 9 February to 30 April 1996 on Member States in accordance with the scheme set out in the present resolution, subject to the decision of the Security Council to extend the mandate of the Verification Mission beyond 8 February 1996;

15. *Notes with appreciation* the voluntary contributions made by Germany, South Africa, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America, and invites voluntary contributions to the Verification Mission in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure established by the Assembly in its resolutions 43/230 of 21 December 1988, 44/192 A of 21 December 1989 and 45/258 of 3 May 1991;

16. *Decides* to keep the agenda item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Angola Verification Mission" under review during its fiftieth session.

100th plenary meeting
23 December 1995

50/210. Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Liberia

The General Assembly,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Liberia[36] and the related oral report of the Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[37]

Recalling Security Council resolution 866 (1993) of 22 September 1993, by which the Council established the United Nations Observer Mission in Liberia, and subsequent resolutions by which the Council extended the mandate of the Observer Mission, the latest of which was resolution 1014 (1995) of 15 September 1995, and resolution 1020 (1995) of 10 November 1995, by which the Council adjusted the mandate of the Observer Mission,

Recalling also its decision 48/478 of 23 December 1993 on the financing of the Observer Mission and its subsequent resolutions thereon, the latest of which was resolution 49/232 B of 12 July 1995,

Reaffirming that the costs of the Observer Mission are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling further its previous decision regarding the fact that, in order to meet the expenditures caused by the Observer Mission, a different procedure is required from that applied to meet expenditures of the regular budget of the United Nations,

Taking into account the fact that the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions and that the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards such an operation,

Bearing in mind the special responsibilities of the States permanent members of the Security Council, as indicated in General Assembly resolution 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, in the financing of such operations,

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[36] A/50/650 and Add.1.

[37] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Fifth Committee*, 43rd meeting, and corrigendum.

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Observer Mission with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

1. *Takes note* of the status of contributions to the United Nations Observer Mission in Liberia as at 19 December 1995, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 8,684,042 United States dollars, representing 15 per cent of the total assessed contributions from the inception of the Observer Mission to the period ending 31 December 1995, notes that some 22 per cent of the Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States concerned, particularly those in arrears, to ensure the payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

2. *Expresses concern* about the financial situation with regard to peace-keeping activities, particularly as regards the reimbursement of troop contributors, notably those troop-contributing Member States that have paid their assessed contributions, which bear an additional burden owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

3. *Urges* all Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the Observer Mission promptly and in full;

4. *Endorses*, on an exceptional basis in the absence of a written report, the oral observations and recommendations presented by the Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

5. *Notes with concern* the exchange of posts between the Observer Mission and the United Nations Protection Force, which is not properly reflected in the report of the Secretary-General;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that all United Nations activities related to the Liberian peace process are administered in a coordinated fashion with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

7. *Approves*, on an exceptional basis, the special arrangements for the Observer Mission with regard to the application of article IV of the Financial Regulations of the United Nations, whereby appropriations required in respect of obligations owed to Governments providing contingents and/or logistic support for the Observer Mission shall be retained beyond the period stipulated under financial regulations 4.3 and 4.4, as set out in the annex to the present resolution;

8. *Decides* to appropriate to the Special Account for the United Nations Observer Mission in Liberia the amount of 9,773,600 dollars gross (9,608,200 dollars net), for the maintenance of the Observer Mission for the period from 1 to 31 January 1996;

9. *Decides also*, as an ad hoc arrangement, to apportion among Member States the amount of 9,773,600 dollars gross (9,608,200 dollars net) in accordance with the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of General Assembly resolution 43/232 of 1 March 1989, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolutions 44/192 B of 21 December 1989, 45/269 of 27 August 1991, 46/198 A of 20 December 1991 and 47/218 A of 23 December 1992 and its decisions 48/472 A of 23 December 1993 and 50/451 B of 23 December 1995, and taking into account the scale of assessments for the years 1995 and 1996;[4]

10. *Decides further* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 9 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 165,400 dollars approved for the Observer Mission for the period from 1 to 31 January 1996;

11. *Decides* that, for Member States that have fulfilled their financial obligations to the Observer Mission, there shall be set off against the apportionment, as provided for in paragraph 9 above, their respective share in the unencumbered balance of 226,890 dollars gross (224,900 dollars net) for the period from 23 October 1994 to 30 June 1995;

12. *Decides also* that, for Member States that have not fulfilled their financial obligations to the Observer Mission, their share of the unencumbered balance of 226,890 dollars gross (224,900 dollars net) for the period from 23 October 1994 to 30 June 1995 shall be set off against their outstanding obligations;

13. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to enter into commitments in the amount of 12,169,600 dollars gross (11,838,800 dollars net) for the maintenance of the Observer Mission for the period from 1 February to 31 March 1996, subject to the extension of the mandate of the Observer Mission by the Security Council, this amount to be apportioned among Member States in accordance with the scheme set out in the present resolution;

14. *Invites* voluntary contributions to the Observer Mission in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure established by the General Assembly in its resolutions 43/230 of 21 December 1988, 44/192 A of 21 December 1989 and 45/258 of 3 May 1991;

15. *Decides* to keep the agenda item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Liberia" under review during the fiftieth session.

100th plenary meeting
23 December 1995

ANNEX

Special arrangements with regard to the application of article IV of the Financial Regulations of the United Nations

1. At the end of the twelve-month period provided for in financial regulation 4.3, any unliquidated obligations of the financial period in question relating to goods supplied and services rendered by Governments for which claims have been received or which are covered by established reimbursement rates shall be transferred to accounts payable; such accounts payable shall remain recorded in the Special Account for the United Nations Observer Mission in Liberia until payment is effected.

2. (*a*) Any other unliquidated obligations of the financial period in question owed to Governments for goods supplied and services rendered, as well as other obligations owed to Governments, for which required claims have not yet been received, shall remain valid for an additional period of four years following the end of the twelve-month period provided for in financial regulation 4.3;

(*b*) Claims received during this four-year period shall be treated as provided for under paragraph 1 of the present annex, if appropriate;

(*c*) At the end of the additional four-year period, any unliquidated obligations shall be cancelled and the then remaining balance of any appropriations retained therefor shall be surrendered.

50/211. Financing of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda[38] and the related oral report of the Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[37]

Recalling Security Council resolution 1029 (1995) of 12 December 1995, by which the Council adjusted and extended the mandate of the Assistance Mission for a final period until 8 March 1996, as well as all previous Council resolutions on the Assistance Mission,

Recalling also its resolution 48/248 of 5 April 1994 on the financing of the Assistance Mission and its subsequent resolutions and decisions thereon, the latest of which was resolution 49/20 B of 12 July 1995,

Reaffirming that the costs of the Assistance Mission are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling further its previous decisions regarding the fact that, in order to meet the expenditures caused by the Assistance Mission, a different procedure is required from that applied to meet expenditures of the regular budget of the United Nations,

Taking into account the fact that the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions and that the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards such an operation,

Bearing in mind the special responsibilities of the States permanent members of the Security Council, as indicated in General Assembly resolution 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, in the financing of such operations,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Assistance Mission with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

1. *Takes note* of the status of contributions to the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda as at 19 December 1995, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 74,322,512 United States dollars, representing 17 per cent of the total assessed contributions from the inception of the Assistance Mission to the period ending 8 December 1995, notes that some 22 per cent of the Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States concerned, particularly those in arrears, to ensure the payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

2. *Expresses concern* about the financial situation with regard to peace-keeping activities, particularly as regards the reimbursement of troop contributors, notably those troop-contributing Member States that have paid their assessed contributions in full, which bear an additional burden owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

3. *Urges* all Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the Assistance Mission promptly and in full;

4. *Endorses*, on an exceptional basis, in the absence of a written report, the oral observations and recommendations presented by the Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Assistance Mission is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

6. *Decides* to appropriate to the Special Account for the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda the amount of 32,324,500 dollars gross (31,828,900 dollars net) for the operation of the Assistance Mission for the period from 1 January to 8 March 1996;

7. *Decides also*, as an ad hoc arrangement, to apportion the amount of 32,324,500 dollars gross (31,828,900 dollars net) for the period from 1 January to 8 March 1996 among Member States in accordance with the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of General Assembly resolution 43/232 of 1 March 1989, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolutions 44/192 B of 21 December 1989, 45/269 of 27 August 1991, 46/198 A of 20 December 1991 and 47/218 A of 23 December 1992 and its decisions 48/472 A of 23 December 1993 and 50/451 B of 23 December 1995, and taking into account the scale of assessments for the year 1996;

8. *Decides further* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 7 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 495,600 dollars for the period from 1 January to 8 March 1996, inclusive;

9. *Invites* voluntary contributions to the Assistance Mission in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure established by the General Assembly in its resolutions 43/230 of 21 December 1988, 44/192 A of 21 December 1989 and 45/258 of 3 May 1991;

10. *Decides* to keep the agenda item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda" under review during the fiftieth session.

100th plenary meeting
23 December 1995

50/212. Financing of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991[39] and the related oral report by the Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[40]

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[38] A/50/712.

[39] A/C.5/50/41.

[40] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Fifth Committee*, 42nd meeting, and corrigendum.

1. *Decides* to appropriate to the Special Account for the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 an amount of 8,619,500 United States dollars gross (7,637,500 dollars net) for the period from 1 January to 31 March 1996 to allow the International Tribunal to continue its activities through 31 March 1996, without prejudice to recommendations the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions may make to the General Assembly at its resumed fiftieth session;

2. *Decides also*, as an ad hoc and exceptional arrangement, that Member States shall waive their respective shares in the remaining credits arising from previous budgets of the United Nations Protection Force in the total amount of 4,309,750 dollars gross (3,818,750 dollars net) and hence accept an equivalent increase in the assessments for a future budget period of the Force in the same amount, to be transferred to the Special Account for the International Tribunal from the Special Account for the United Nations Protection Force established pursuant to General Assembly resolution 46/233 of 19 March 1992;

3. *Decides further* to apportion the amount of 4,309,750 dollars gross (3,818,750 dollars net) for the period from 1 January to 31 March 1996 among Member States in accordance with the scale of assessments for the year 1996;

4. *Decides* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 3 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 491,000 dollars for the International Tribunal for the period from 1 January to 31 March 1996.

100th plenary meeting
23 December 1995

50/213. Financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994

The General Assembly,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994[41] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions as presented orally by its Chairman,[40]

Noting that detailed requirements for the International Tribunal for Rwanda for the full year of 1996 will be submitted to the General Assembly in early 1996,

1. *Decides* to appropriate to the Special Account for the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994 an amount of 7,609,900 United States dollars gross (7,090,600 dollars net) for the period from 1 January to 31 March 1996, without prejudice to the comments and recommendations the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions may make following its review of the full budget for 1996;

2. *Decides also*, as an ad hoc and exceptional arrangement, that, notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 12 of its resolution 49/20 B of 12 July 1995, Member States shall waive their respective shares in the credits arising from previous budgets of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda in the total amount of 3,804,950 dollars gross (3,545,300 dollars net) and hence accept an equivalent increase in the assessments for a future budget period of the Assistance Mission in the same amount, to be transferred to the Special Account for the International Tribunal for Rwanda from the Special Account for the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda;

3. *Decides further* to apportion the amount of 3,804,950 dollars gross (3,545,300 dollars net) for the period from 1 January to 31 March 1996 among Member States in accordance with the scale of assessments for the year 1996;

4. *Decides* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 3 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 259,650 dollars approved for the International Tribunal for Rwanda for the period from 1 January to 31 March 1996.

100th plenary meeting
23 December 1995

50/214. Questions relating to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997

I

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986 and subsequent relevant resolutions,

Recalling its resolution 45/248 B of 21 December 1990, in which it reaffirmed that the Fifth Committee is the appropriate Main Committee of the General Assembly entrusted with responsibilities for administrative and budgetary matters,

Recalling also its resolutions 45/253 of 21 December 1990 and 47/214 of 23 December 1992,

Reaffirming the respective mandates of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and the Committee for Programme and Coordination in the consideration of the proposed programme budget,

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[41] A/C.5/50/16 and A/C.5/50/47.

Stressing that the normal procedures established for the formulation of the programme budget must be maintained and strictly followed,

Having considered the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997[42] and the reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and the Committee for Programme and Coordination thereon,

1. *Welcomes* the timely preparation, and notes the improved format, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997;

2. *Reiterates its request* that the Secretary-General present in future budget documents appropriate regular budget and extrabudgetary expenditure forecasts to the end of the current biennium to permit comparison with the request contained in the proposed programme budget;

3. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on the programme narrative of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997 contained in the report of the Committee on the work of its thirty-fifth session,[43] without prejudice to the priorities established by the General Assembly, and subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

4. *Regrets* that the Committee for Programme and Coordination was unable to make recommendations on the programme narratives of some sections during its deliberations at its thirty-fifth session;

5. *Reiterates* that the activities included in the proposed programme budget must be derived from the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997[44] and its revisions as adopted by the General Assembly in its resolutions 45/253 and 47/214 and other relevant intergovernmental decisions, and should be aimed at the full implementation of the mandates, policies and priorities as approved by the Assembly;

6. *Stresses* the role of the relevant intergovernmental bodies in the consideration of the narrative of the proposed programme budget as well as the necessity for a timely presentation of their recommendations on the budget;

7. *Also reiterates* the need for the Secretary-General to ensure that resources are strictly utilized for the purposes approved by the General Assembly;

8. *Notes with concern* that the proposed programme budget did not take into account its resolutions 48/218 A and B of 23 December 1993 and 29 July 1994, respectively, regarding the strengthening of the external oversight control mechanisms;

9. *Regrets* that, in the proposed programme budget, the Secretary-General failed to respect completely the priorities set forth in resolutions 45/253 and 47/214;

10. *Further reiterates* that, when formulating the proposed programme budget, the Secretary-General must respect fully the priorities established by the General Assembly;

11. *Decides* to make the following changes to the programme narrative in the final published version of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997:[42]

(*a*) Amend, as appropriate, references to "island developing States" to read "small island developing States";

(*b*) In paragraph 71, third sentence, of the Introduction, replace "in Eastern Europe and the countries in transition" by "for countries with economies in transition";

(*c*) In paragraph 1.37, fourth sentence, after "efforts", add "to promote international economic cooperation and economic and social development and";

(*d*) In paragraphs 2.48 and 2.48.1 (*a*) (iii), delete "the front-line States", and in paragraph 2.104.3 (*b*), delete ", but not in Africa";

(*e*) In paragraph 7A.41, the last two lines should read: "encouraging integration with national efforts through such approaches as a programme approach, national execution and country strategy notes, at the request of the recipient Governments.";

(*f*) Redraft the beginning of paragraph 8.3 as follows: "The main objectives of the Department will be the promotion of an integrated approach to economic, social and environmental aspects of development, including the elaboration of perspectives that will provide for sustainable, equitable and participatory development. The Department will develop and promote a coordinated approach to key policy issues. To that end, the Department will help Governments, international organizations, non-governmental organizations and others interested in determining...";

(*g*) In paragraph 8.6, penultimate sentence, after "regulation" add "as well as analysis of such issues as the role of markets in fostering growth, the provision of public goods, marginalization and social integration, human resources development, the impact of economic sanctions and the peace-development link";

(*h*) In paragraph 8.41, the last sentence should read: "Recent developments in the world economy reinforce the need to view the development process as being increasingly integrated through economic, social and political linkages.";

(*i*) In paragraph 8.42, delete the third sentence, reading "In the area of security economics, the focus will be on analysing the linkages between political and economic issues and policies.", and amend the last sentence to read: "The subprogramme will also focus on reporting to the General Assembly and the Security Council (as appropriate) on the impact of multilateral economic sanctions, coercive economic measures, participation of affected countries in post-conflict reconstruction and rehabilitation of the crisis-stricken areas, in the context of provisions of General Assembly resolutions 50/51 of 11 December 1995 and 50/58 E of 12 December 1995.";

(*j*) The beginning of paragraph 8.66 (*a*) should read: "One new P-5 post for research, analysis and policy studies on international migration, in particular the refugee flows and the causes, impact and different consequences of such movements including the human rights aspects and economic consequences of such population movements.";

(*k*) In paragraph 9.8, after "Unit", insert "for countries with economies in transition";

(*l*) In paragraph 9.8 (*e*), delete "; at the same time, the fellowships and technical assistance recruitment function at Geneva will be discontinued";

(*m*) In paragraph 9.21, third and fourth sentences, after "provided", add "upon the request of Governments";

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[42] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 6* (A/50/6/Rev.1), vols. I and II.

[43] Ibid., *Supplement No. 16* (A/50/16).

[44] Ibid., *Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 6* and corrigendum (A/47/6/Rev.1 and Corr.1), vols. I and II.

(*n*) In paragraph 9.24, second sentence, replace the reference to "sustainable human development" by "sustained economic growth and sustainable development", and delete "as well as, where appropriate, within the context of the peace-to-development continuum";

(*o*) In paragraph 9.29, at the end of the first sentence, after "Agenda 21", add ", in the context of permanent sovereignty over natural resources and of an integral approach to environment and development";

(*p*) In paragraph 10A.4, add the Commission on Science and Technology for Development to the list of subsidiary bodies;

(*q*) In paragraph 13.13, first sentence, after "sophisticated forms", add "such as illicit traffic of children, child prostitution and child pornography";

(*r*) In paragraph 18.28, after the first sentence, add the sentence "All these activities will be implemented upon the request of interested Governments, taking into account their national priorities.";

(*s*) In paragraph 20.15, first sentence, after "are implemented" insert "upon the request of Governments in accordance with their national programmes and priorities";

(*t*) In paragraph 20.22, at the end of the first sentence, add "by General Assembly resolution 47/214 of 23 December 1992 and subsequent relevant resolutions";

(*u*) In paragraph 21.2, at the end of the first sentence, add ", in particular General Assembly resolution 48/121 of 20 December 1993, which endorsed the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, and resolution 48/141 of the same date, which created the post of United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.", and delete the rest of paragraph 21.2;

(*v*) Delete paragraphs 21.3 to 21.6, inclusive, and renumber the subsequent paragraphs;

(*w*) In paragraph 24.4, last sentence, after "humanitarian advocate", add "consistent with the leadership role of the Secretary-General and the guiding principles, including those of impartiality, humanity and neutrality, set out in the annex to resolution 46/182";

(*x*) At the end of paragraph 24.18.1. (*h*), delete "and initiate a regime to limit stockpiling, production and trade of land-mines (XB)";

(*y*) In paragraph 25.1, delete the reference to document A/49/6;

(*z*) In paragraph 25.11, replace the last sentence by: "In that context, the activities of the United Nations information centres and the programmes of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat, including those in support of major United Nations conferences, are aimed at supporting the main activities of the Organization, emphasizing those related to peace, security and disarmament, economic and social development, human rights and other political affairs, such as the question of Palestine, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 48/44 B of 10 December 1993. The activities of the centres and the Department, as well as the production of articles in magazines, radio and television broadcasts, and a variety of important publications, have all contributed substantially to promoting that understanding all over the world.";

(*aa*) In paragraph 25.12.3 (*b*) (ii), after the reference to the Agenda for Peace, add ", already approved by the General Assembly in its resolutions 47/120 A and B,";

(*bb*) In paragraph 25.91, the first sentence should read: "Information centres play a vital role in collecting, analysing, summarizing and providing Headquarters with analysis, media summaries and clippings on developments related to all United Nations activities, including those related to international peace and security.";

(*cc*) In paragraph 26C.58, add an additional subparagraph reading "(*f*) Providing language training in the six official languages."; and in paragraph 26C.58.5, the first sentence should read: "Language training is provided in the six official languages in accordance with resolution 2480 B (XXIII) of 21 December 1968, 43/224 D of 21 December 1988 and 50/11 of 2 November 1995."

(*dd*) In paragraph 29.3, first sentence, before "peace-keeping", add "development,";

(*ee*) Paragraph 29.4 should read: "The objectives of the programme include ensuring compliance with resolutions of the General Assembly and with regulations, rules and policies of the United Nations; monitoring programme implementation and evaluating the results achieved; reviewing and appraising the use of financial resources of the United Nations in order to guarantee the implementation of programmes and legislative mandates; investigating alleged violations of United Nations regulations, rules and pertinent administrative issuances; and recommending policies and measures for the promotion of economy and efficiency based on these audits, inspections and investigations, in accordance with resolution 48/218 B";

(*ff*) In paragraph 29.26 (*a*), first sentence, add the United Nations Office at Nairobi to the list;

II

Emphasizing that programmes and activities mandated by the General Assembly must be respected and implemented fully,

Also emphasizing the need for mandated programmes and activities to be delivered in the most effective and efficient manner,

Noting those areas identified in chapter I of the first report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997[45] where the Advisory Committee, without recommending reductions at present, believes economies can be achieved, including, *inter alia*, the productivity gains that can be realized as the result of technological innovations, review of publications, strict control of expenditures on travel and consultants, appropriate staff ratios and the possibilities for greater accuracy in forecasting costing standards,

1. *Approves* the comments and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions as expressed in chapter I of its first report on the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997, subject to the provisions of the present resolution, and requests the Secretary-General to take necessary measures thereon;

2. *Reaffirms* the budgetary process as approved in its resolution 41/213;

3. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Secretary-General to enhance efficiency in the preparation of his proposed programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997;

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[45] Ibid., *Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 7* and corrigendum (A/50/7 and Corr.1).

4. *Reaffirms* that changes in mandated programmes and activities are the prerogative of the General Assembly;

5. *Notes* that the Secretary-General intends to pursue further efficiency gains on an ongoing basis and that gains in the order of magnitude of 100 million United States dollars during the biennium would be a reasonable expectation;

6. *Decides* that savings in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997 will not affect the full implementation of mandated programmes and activities;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to present, as soon as possible, and no later than 31 March 1996, to the General Assembly, through the Advisory Committee, a report containing proposals of possible savings for its consideration and approval;

8. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to make proposals to the General Assembly as soon as possible, and no later than the fifty-first session, on further measures to improve efficiency, contain administrative costs and achieve savings in the Organization with a view to enhancing programme delivery and the implementation of all programmes and activities mandated by the General Assembly;

9. *Further requests* the Secretary-General, when making such proposals, to take into account areas identified in chapter I of the first report of the Advisory Committee on the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in making proposals for such savings, to ensure the fair, equitable and non-selective treatment of all budget sections;

11. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in addition to the biennial budget performance report, to present no later than the end of the fiftieth session and in June 1997 a programme performance report on the impact of approved savings measures on the implementation of mandated programmes and activities;

12. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that adequate resources are allocated in the 1996-1997 programme budget for activities specifically relating to the least developed countries in accordance with the priority accorded thereto;

13. *Decides* that the vacancy rate in 1996-1997 will be 6.4 per cent for both Professional and General Service posts, subject to review in the context of the above paragraphs;

III

1. *Approves*, subject to the modifications below, the recommendations and observations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions contained in chapter II of its first report on the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997,[45] and requests the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures concerning them;

2. *Decides* to consider at its resumed fiftieth session the modalities for the strengthening of the external oversight mechanisms decided upon in its decision 47/454 of 23 December 1992;

Section 1. Overall policy-making, direction and coordination

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the Office of the President of the General Assembly is provided with adequate resources;

4. *Accepts* the level of resources proposed by the Secretary-General for the Advisory Committee;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to keep under review the level of the post of the Executive Secretary of the Board of Auditors, taking into account the increased workload of the Board and General Assembly resolutions 48/218 A and B on the strengthening of the external oversight bodies, and to report thereon in the context of the proposed programme budget for 1998-1999;

Section 2. Political affairs

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to maintain the Division of Palestinian Rights at its 1994-1995 approved staffing level, to keep the staffing requirements of the Division under review in the light of developments in the Middle East and to report thereon to the General Assembly when necessary;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to keep the resource requirements for the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People under review in the light of developments in the Middle East and to report thereon to the General Assembly when necessary;

8. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that adequate resources are made available to ensure the continuation, as appropriate, of the functions formerly carried out by the Office of the Coordinator of Assistance for the Reconstruction and Development of Lebanon;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to review the grade structure of the Department of Political Affairs as recommended in paragraph II.4 of the first report of the Advisory Committee on the proposed programme budget, as well as the division of responsibilities between the Department of Political Affairs and the Department of Peace-keeping Operations so as to ensure the clear delineation of their respective tasks and to avoid duplication and overlap, as recommended in paragraph II.15 of the report of the Advisory Committee;

10. *Decides* to keep the level of resources proposed for travel of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples under review in the light of actual expenditure patterns and to make proposals thereon as appropriate in the context of the revised estimates for the biennium 1996-1997;

Section 3. Peace-keeping operations and special missions

11. *Takes note* of the proposals of the Secretary-General in section 3 of the proposed programme budget relating to the full range of administrative support for ad hoc missions under the good offices of the Secretary-General, peace-keeping operations and other special and field missions, and of the comments and recommendations of the Advisory Committee;

12. *Decides*, in this regard, to review the number of posts and the level of appropriation for section 3 by 31 March 1996, in the context of the comprehensive review of the support account;

Section 5. International Court of Justice

13. *Requests* all relevant entities at The Hague to continue negotiations with the aim of obtaining economies through common administrative services;

14. *Accepts* the proposal of the Secretary-General, subject to the recommendations of the Advisory Committee,

for the enlargement of the premises of the International Court of Justice, subject to further review in the context of a savings report called for in section II, paragraph 7 of the present resolution;

Section 6. Legal activities

15. *Notes* the assurances given by the Secretary-General that adequate resources are available within section 6 of the proposed programme budget to enable the Secretary-General to implement fully the provisions of General Assembly resolutions 49/60 of 9 December 1994 and 50/53 of 11 December 1995 regarding measures to eliminate international terrorism;

Section 7A. Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development

16. *Approves* the provision of 500,000 United States dollars as the United Nations contribution to the financing of the activities of the Non-Governmental Liaison Service;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that there are adequate resources for follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development, held at Copenhagen from 6 to 12 March 1995, and the Fourth World Conference on Women, held at Beijing from 4 to 15 September 1995, as well as resources for climate change;

Section 7B. Africa: critical economic situation, recovery and development

18. *Decides*, pursuant to section V of its resolution 49/219 of 23 December 1994, to create a separate identifiable programme budget section for the implementation of activities relating to programme 45 of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997 as revised by the General Assembly in its resolution 47/214;

19. *Decides also* to establish one P-5 post and to redeploy from section 26H of the proposed programme budget one General Service post to strengthen the implementation of activities relating to programme 45 as revised by the General Assembly in its resolution 47/214;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to review the level of resources devoted to the implementation of activities related to Africa: critical economic situation, recovery and development, and to make proposals with a view to strengthening those activities, taking into account General Assembly resolutions 47/214 and 49/142 of 23 December 1994 and the recommendation of the Committee on Programme Coordination in paragraph 101 of its report[43] to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session, and to report thereon to the Assembly before the end of its fiftieth session;

Section 8. Department for Economic and Social Information and Policy Analysis

21. *Endorses* the proposals of the Secretary-General, as contained in table 8.3 of the proposed programme budget, which already include internal redeployments within the Department for Economic and Social Information and Policy Analysis, and requests the Secretary-General to review the staffing of the Department with a view to achieving efficiency gains, including possible redeployment of posts, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its resumed fiftieth session;

Section 9. Department for Development Support and Management Services

22. *Notes with deep concern* the sharp decrease in the level of extrabudgetary resources for the Department for Development Support and Management Services, which has had an adverse impact on its ability to carry out mandated activities, and requests the Secretary-General to intensify his efforts to mobilize extrabudgetary resources;

23. *Endorses* in principle the management objectives stated in the proposal of the Secretary-General;

24. *Also endorses* the proposal of the Secretary-General contained in paragraph 9.25 of the proposed programme budget;

25. *Decides* that the posts and related functions proposed in paragraph 9.54 of the proposed programme budget for transfer to New York shall remain at Geneva, pending a comprehensive review by the Secretary-General of the implications of the transfer for programme delivery, and requests the Secretary-General to report thereon as soon as possible, but no later than the resumed fiftieth session, with a view to achieving maximum efficiency;

Section 10A. United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

26. *Approves* the establishment of a P-4 post for the follow-up to the Conference on Small Island Developing States as approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 49/122 of 19 December 1994, and requests the Secretary-General to fill the position on a priority basis;

27. *Decides* to maintain the D-2 post for transnational corporation activities on a temporary basis;

Section 11. United Nations Environment Programme

28. *Defers* a decision on the abolition of the P-5 post of energy expert pending a review by the General Assembly, on the basis of information to be provided by the Secretary-General during the resumed fiftieth session, of all posts that, as of 29 November 1995, had been vacant since 1 January 1994;

Section 13. Crime control

29. *Approves* the upgrading of the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch to a division and the consequent reclassification of the D-1 post of the Chief of the Branch to the D-2 level;

30. *Also approves* the establishment of two P-3 posts for activities relating to subprogramme 2 (Collaborative action against transnational crime) and subprogramme 3 (Crime prevention and criminal justice management) of section 13 of the proposed programme budget;

31. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in strengthening the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Division, to review the adequacy of resources made available for crime prevention activities at the regional level and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session;

32. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report on the status of implementation of the strategic management plan of the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Division as adopted by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in its resolution 1/1 of 29 April 1992,[46] including, *inter alia*, those activities that have achieved demonstrable results in combating international crime, assist-

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[46] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1992, Supplement No. 10* (E/1992/30), chap. I, sect. C.

ing international law enforcement or otherwise meeting current mandates of the United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders and of the Commission;

Section 14. International drug control

33. *Endorses* the proposal of the Secretary-General to create two additional P-3 posts to strengthen the capacity of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme;

Section 18. Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

34. *Endorses* the urgent need reflected in paragraph 33.68 of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997 to study and elaborate, in close cooperation with the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, the economic and social impact caused by the production and trafficking of narcotic and psychotropic substances in Latin America and the Caribbean, and approves the creation of one P-4 post, through existing classification procedures, for activities related to subprogramme 9 (Social development) to undertake, in close cooperation and coordination with the Programme, the functions contained in paragraph 33.69 of the medium-term plan;

Section 20. Regular programme of technical cooperation

35. *Approves* expenditure under this section at the same level as in 1994-1995;

Section 21. Human rights

36. *Reaffirms* the role of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in promoting and protecting the realization of all human rights, including the right to development, and in enhancing support from relevant bodies of the United Nations system for this purpose;

37. *Requests* the Secretary-General, taking into account the proposals of the High Commissioner made in the context of the ongoing process of restructuring the Centre for Human Rights, to establish in the biennium 1996-1997 a new branch whose primary responsibilities would include the promotion and protection of the right to development;

38. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to formulate appropriate programmatic follow-up to the activities to be carried out by this branch, in particular follow-up to the implementation of the Declaration on the Right to Development[47] in accordance with paragraph 6 of General Assembly resolution 50/184 of 22 December 1995, for inclusion in the next medium-term plan;

39. *Decides* that the Secretary-General shall report by 31 March 1996 to the General Assembly at its resumed fiftieth session, making proposals on the appropriate level and distribution of resources for the Centre for Human Rights, taking into account paragraphs 36 and 37 above and the restructuring of the Centre;

40. *Endorses*, pending consideration of the report of the Secretary-General, the recommendations of the Advisory Committee as contained in paragraph VI.11 of its first report on the proposed programme budget;

Section 24. Department of Humanitarian Affairs

41. *Endorses* the proposal of the Secretary-General on the level of resources assigned to section 24 of the proposed programme budget;

42. *Expresses deep concern* over the sharp decrease in the level of extrabudgetary resources for the Department of Humanitarian Affairs, which has had an adverse impact on its ability to carry out mandated activities, and requests the Secretary-General to intensify his efforts to mobilize extrabudgetary resources;

Section 25. Public information

43. *Requests* the Secretary-General to evaluate the capability and effectiveness of United Nations information centres in the performance of their functions, including, *inter alia*, retrieval and dissemination of information, taking into account electronic information, where accessible, and to report thereon to the General Assembly, through the Committee on Information, at the fifty-first session;

44. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to evaluate the activities of the Dag Hammarskjöld Library with a view to improving the efficiency and effectiveness of its functioning;

45. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that internal printing services are used more efficiently, limiting external contracting to cases that are strictly necessary, unless the external contracting provides the same services at a lower cost;

46. *Decides* that the standards utilized to determine the volume of work and the composition of the staff that provide services for international conferences outside Headquarters should be modified in order to reduce the costs of these activities through the utilization of advanced technologies;

47. *Reiterates* its resolution 50/84 C of 15 December 1995 on public information activities relating to Palestine, and requests the Secretary-General to provide the necessary resources for these activities during the biennium 1996-1997;

48. *Reaffirms* the importance attached by Member States to the role of the United Nations information centres in effectively and comprehensively disseminating information about United Nations activities, particularly in developing countries and countries with economies in transition, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to provide adequate resources to enable them to carry out their mandated activities;

49. *Also reaffirms* the continued usefulness of publications of the Department of Public Information in the dissemination of information, and, taking into account paragraph 7 of General Assembly resolution 50/31 B of 6 December 1995, requests the Secretary-General to continue providing adequate resources for that purpose;

Section 26. Administration and management

50. *Decides* to defer the proposal for the allocation of financial and personnel resources for the reform of the internal justice system as proposed in section 26A of the proposed programme budget until the General Assembly takes a decision on this issue;

51. *Requests* the Secretary-General, taking into account the increased workload of the Fifth Committee, to designate a deputy to the Secretary of the Fifth Committee as soon as possible but no later than the beginning of the first part of the resumed fiftieth session of the General Assembly;

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[47] Resolution 41/128, annex.

52. *Takes note* of the proposal of the Secretary-General in section 26B of the proposed programme budget relating to the Peace-keeping Financing Division and the comments and recommendations of the Advisory Committee thereon;

53. *Decides*, in this regard, to review the number of posts and the level of appropriation for section 26B by 31 March 1996, in the context of the comprehensive review of the support account;

54. *Decides also* to maintain the two P-2 Language Coordinator posts and the two full-time language teachers in the Training Service;

55. *Requests* the Office of Internal Oversight Services to undertake a comprehensive audit of the outsourcing practices, including, in particular, the contracting process, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session;

56. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consider extending the application of section XVII of General Assembly resolution 36/235 of 18 December 1981 regarding language training for all the main United Nations duty stations and to report thereon during the fifty-first session of the Assembly;

57. *Decides further* to maintain the current 1994-1995 staffing table for Conference and Library Services, Vienna;

58. *Reaffirms* the need for a comprehensive, substantive and timely dialogue between Member States and the Secretary-General on administrative and budgetary matters;

59. *Notes* the assurances given by the Secretary-General that adequate resources are available to ensure the provision of improved meeting arrangements and facilities for the holding of bilateral meetings and contacts among Member States on a basis similar to that provided during the fiftieth session of the General Assembly, during subsequent sessions of the Assembly in 1996 and 1997;

60. *Endorses* the recommendation of the Advisory Committee on section 26H of the proposed programme budget with the exception of the General Service post redeployed to section 7B;

Section 27. Jointly financed administrative activities

61. *Requests* the International Civil Service Commission to examine and report to the General Assembly on other less-costly forms for collecting data on prices and for their studies on the cost of living, including the Office of Human Resources Management, from private and governmental sources, and the possibility of outsourcing;

62. *Endorses* the request of the Advisory Committee that the Joint Inspection Unit review its practice of allocating travel funds so as to ensure their most efficient use, and recommends that a system of allocating travel funds in accordance with specific studies and activities related to the implementation of the programme of work as approved by the Unit be established;

63. *Requests* the Joint Inspection Unit to establish appropriate procedures to ensure that the travel system and work procedures referred to in paragraph 62 above are respected;

64. *Requests* the Secretary-General to fill the existing vacancies in the Joint Inspection Unit secretariat as soon as possible and no later than 30 June 1996;

65. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, taking into account the decision to strengthen external oversight mechanisms, in close cooperation with the Joint Inspection Unit and in conformity with the procedures for consultation with the Administrative Committee on Coordination, to present proposals on strengthening the Unit's secretariat in the framework of the revised estimates for the programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997;

Section 28. Special expenses

66. *Requests* the Secretary-General to review and report on the cost of after-service health insurance;

Section 29. Office of Internal Oversight Services

67. *Agrees* to establish the following posts: two P-3 (Monitoring and inspection), one P-5 (Evaluation), one D-1 (Investigations), one P-5 (Investigations) and one P-3/4 (Investigations);

68. *Also agrees* to establish, on a temporary basis, the rest of the posts as approved by the Advisory Committee, subject to the presentation of the workload analysis and job descriptions;

Section 31. Construction, alteration, improvement and major maintenance

69. *Decides* that for the biennium 1996-1997 only essential repairs and construction, the deferral of which would endanger occupational health and safety, leave the Organization in breach of local building regulations or in the longer term not be cost-effective, should be carried out and that, as a result, the proposed estimates for alterations, improvements and major maintenance would be reduced by 12 million dollars;

70. *Takes note* of the assurances given by the Secretariat with regard to the status of implementation of the United Nations construction project at Addis Ababa, and requests the Secretary-General to take all necessary measures to ensure that the project is completed as approved;

Section 33. International Seabed Authority

71. *Approves* the level of resources for conference servicing of the International Seabed Authority under section 26E of the proposed programme budget;

72. *Also approves* the level of resources for administrative expenses of the International Seabed Authority recommended by the Advisory Committee on the understanding that expenditures beyond an amount of 776,000 dollars would, on an exceptional basis, be absorbed under section 31 of the proposed programme budget;

Income section 3

73. *Requests* the Secretary-General to review the functioning and operation of garages in the main duty stations, taking into account the need to provide sufficient parking facilities, and to submit proposals thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session;

74. *Requests* the Office of Internal Oversight Services to examine the management of the catering facilities at Headquarters and to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session;

IV

1. *Decides* that the amounts under expenditure sections 1 to 33 as provided under section III of the present resolution represent a provisional total of 2,712,265,200 dollars;

2. *Also decides* that the projected level of savings to be achieved during the biennium will be 103,991,200 dollars;

3. *Further decides* that the total level of expenditure provided for in 1996-1997 is 2,608,274,000 dollars;

4. *Decides* therefore that Member States be assessed on the basis of the amount of 2,608,274,000 dollars for the biennium 1996-1997.

100th plenary meeting
23 December 1995

50/215. Programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997

A

BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE BIENNIUM 1996-1997

The General Assembly

Resolves that for the biennium 1996-1997:

1. Appropriations totalling 2,608,274,000 United States dollars are hereby approved for the following purposes:

Section		*(US dollars)*
	PART I. *Overall policy-making, direction and coordination*	
1.	Overall policy-making, direction and coordination	40 348 200
	TOTAL, PART I	40 348 200
	PART II. *Political affairs*	
2.	Political affairs	60 989 500
3.	Peace-keeping operations and special missions	102 868 200
4.	Outer space affairs	4 705 500
	TOTAL, PART II	168 563 200
	PART III. *International justice and law*	
5.	International Court of Justice	21 339 600
6.	Legal activities	31 605 400
	TOTAL, PART III	52 945 000
	PART IV. *International cooperation for development*	
7A.	Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development	44 318 700
7B.	Africa: critical economic situation, recovery and development	4 305 100
8.	Department for Economic and Social Information and Policy Analysis	48 612 100
9.	Department for Development Support and Management Services	26 556 000
10A.	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development	121 925 300
10B.	International Trade Centre UNCTAD/GATT	21 642 000
11.	United Nations Environment Programme	9 512 200
12.	United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)	13 059 600
13.	Crime control	5 254 600
14.	International drug control	17 344 100
	TOTAL, PART IV	312 529 700
	PART V. *Regional cooperation for development*	
15.	Economic Commission for Africa	87 845 600
16.	Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific	66 379 300
17.	Economic Commission for Europe	52 883 100
18.	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean	88 327 200
19.	Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia	37 791 200
20.	Regular programme of technical cooperation	44 814 700
	TOTAL, PART V	378 041 100
	PART VI. *Human rights and humanitarian affairs*	
21.	Human rights	52 987 600
22.	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees	54 318 500

Section	*(US dollars)*
23. United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East	22 643 000
24. Department of Humanitarian Affairs	21 039 300
TOTAL, PART VI	150 988 400
PART VII. *Public information*	
25. Public information	137 658 000
TOTAL, PART VII	137 658 000
PART VIII. *Common support services*	
26. Administration and management	960 885 100
TOTAL, PART VIII	960 885 100
PART IX. *Jointly financed administrative activities and special expenses*	
27. Jointly financed administrative activities	28 915 000
28. Special expenses	41 701 700
TOTAL, PART IX	70 616 700
PART X. *Internal Oversight Services*	
29. Office of Internal Oversight Services	15 716 500
TOTAL, PART X	15 716 500
PART XI. *Capital expenditures*	
30. Technological innovations	21 999 600
31. Construction, alteration, improvement and major maintenance	31 585 400
TOTAL, PART XI	53 585 000
PART XII. *Staff assessment*	
32. Staff assessment	369 080 100
TOTAL, PART XII	369 080 100
PART XIII. *International Seabed Authority*	
33. International Seabed Authority	1 308 200
TOTAL, PART XIII	1 308 200
TOTAL, EXPENDITURE SECTIONS	2 712 265 200
Less: anticipated reductions to be confirmed by the General Assembly	(103 991 200)
GRAND TOTAL	2 608 274 000

2. The Secretary-General shall be authorized to transfer credits between sections of the budget, with the concurrence of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

3. The total net provision made under the various sections of the budget for contractual printing shall be administered as a unit under the direction of the United Nations Publications Board;

4. In addition to the appropriations approved under paragraph 1 above, an amount of 51,000 dollars is appropriated for each year of the biennium 1996-1997 from the accumulated income of the Library Endowment Fund for the purchase of books, periodicals, maps and library equipment and for such other expenses of the Library at the Palais des Nations as are in accordance with the objects and provisions of the endowment.

100th plenary meeting
23 December 1995

B

INCOME ESTIMATES FOR THE BIENNIUM 1996-1997

The General Assembly

Resolves that for the biennium 1996-1997:

1. Estimates of income other than assessments on Member States totalling 471,401,700 United States dollars are approved as follows:

Income section		*(US dollars)*
1. Income from staff assessment		384 306 000
2. General income................		86 209 200
3. Services to the public		886 500
	TOTAL, INCOME SECTIONS	471 401 700

2. The income from staff assessment shall be credited to the Tax Equalization Fund in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955;

3. Direct expenses of the United Nations Postal Administration, services to visitors, catering and related services, garage operations, television services and the sale of publications, not provided for under the budget appropriations, shall be charged against the income derived from those activities.

100th plenary meeting
23 December 1995

C

FINANCING OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE YEAR 1996

The General Assembly

Resolves that for the year 1996:

1. Budget appropriations consisting of 1,304,137,000 United States dollars, being half of the appropriations of 2,608,274,000 dollars approved for the biennium 1996-1997 by the General Assembly under paragraph 1 of resolution A above, and 24,160,900 dollars, being the increase in revised appropriations for 1994-1995 approved by the Assembly in its resolution 50/205 A of 23 December 1995, shall be financed in accordance with regulations 5.1 and 5.2 of the Financial Regulations of the United Nations as follows:

(*a*) 43,547,850 dollars, being the net of half of the estimated income other than staff assessment approved for the biennium 1996-1997 under resolution B above, less 946,800 dollars, being the decrease in income other than staff assessment for 1994-1995;

(*b*) 1,285,696,850 dollars, being the assessment on Member States in accordance with General Assembly resolution 49/19 B of 23 December 1994 on the scale of assessments for the years 1996 and 1997;

2. There shall be set off against the assessments on Member States, in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund in the total amount of 197,885,900 dollars, consisting of:

(*a*) 192,153,000 dollars, being half of the estimated staff assessment income approved for the biennium 1996-1997 under resolution B above;

(*b*) Plus 5,732,900 dollars, being the increase in the income from staff assessment for the biennium 1994-1995 approved by the Assembly in its resolution 50/205 B.

100th plenary meeting
23 December 1995

50/216. Special subjects relating to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997

The General Assembly

I

United Nations Mission for the Verification of Human Rights and of Compliance with the Commitments of the Comprehensive Agreement on Human Rights in Guatemala

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General[48] and the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in its report;[49]

2. Approves the estimate of 7,124,800 United States dollars for the United Nations Mission for the Verification of Human Rights and of Compliance with the Commitments of the Comprehensive Agreement on Human Rights in Guatemala for the period from 1 January to 31 March 1996, under section 3 (Peace-keeping operations and special missions) of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997;[42]

3. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to enter into commitments in an amount not exceeding a monthly level of 2,329,700 dollars should the mandate of the Mission be extended beyond 31 March 1996;

II

Revised estimates under section 1 (Overall policy-making, direction and coordination), section 32 (Staff assessment) and income section 1 (Income from staff assessment)

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the revised estimates under section 1 (Overall policy-mak-

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[48] A/C.5/50/26.

[49] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 7A* (A/50/7/[Addenda]), document A/50/7/Add.9.

ing, direction and coordination), section 32 (Staff assessment) and income section 1 (Income from staff assessment)[50] of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997;[42]

2. *Endorses* the recommendation of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions[51] to approve a temporary post at the Under-Secretary-General level, as requested by the Secretary-General, and that such additional appropriation as might be required should be reflected in the performance report for the biennium 1996-1997;

III

Integrated Management Information System project: seventh progress report of the Secretary-General

Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General[52] and the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[53]

IV

Conditions of service and compensation for officials other than Secretariat officials: members of the International Court of Justice

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[54]

2. *Approves* the recommendation thereon of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in its report;[55]

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to address the issues raised by the Advisory Committee concerning the conditions of service of members of the International Court of Justice in the context of the next review, at the fifty-third session of the General Assembly;

V

Request for subvention to the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research resulting from the recommendations of the Board of Trustees of the Institute contained in the report of the Board[56]

Approves the recommendation of a subvention of 220,000 dollars from the regular budget of the United Nations for 1996, on the understanding that no additional appropriation would be required under section 2 (Political affairs) of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997;[42]

VI

Conditions of service and compensation for officials, other than Secretariat officials, serving the General Assembly: full-time members of the International Civil Service Commission and the Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[57]

2. *Requests* the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions to report thereon to the General Assembly at the first part of its resumed fiftieth session, in accordance with established procedures;

VII

Administrative expenses of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund

Having considered the report of the Standing Committee of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board for 1995 to the General Assembly and to the member organizations of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund,[58] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[59]

1. *Concurs* with the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the administrative expenses of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund;

2. *Approves* expenses, chargeable directly to the Fund, totalling 40,208,300 dollars net for the biennium 1996-1997 and an increase in expenses of 835,500 dollars net for the biennium 1994-1995, for the administration of the Fund;

3. *Authorizes* the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board to supplement the voluntary contributions to the Emergency Fund for the biennium 1996-1997 by an amount not exceeding 200,000 dollars;

VIII

Contingency fund

Notes that a balance of 19,427,000 dollars remains in the contingency fund;[60]

IX

Unforeseen and extraordinary expenses

Decides to consider the report of the Secretary-General[61] at its resumed fiftieth session, and, pending a decision on the Secretary-General's proposal, to authorize him to continue with the current arrangements until a decision is taken on the basis of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions.

100th plenary meeting
23 December 1995

50/217. Unforeseen and extraordinary expenses for the biennium 1996-1997

The General Assembly

1. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General, with the prior concurrence of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and subject to the Financial Regulations of the United Nations and the provisions of paragraph 3 below, to enter into commitments in the biennium 1996-1997 to meet unforeseen and extraordinary expenses arising either during or subsequent to the biennium, provided that the con-

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[50] A/C.5/50/40.

[51] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 7A* (A/50/7/[Addenda]), document A/50/7/Add.10, para.6.

[52] A/C.5/50/35.

[53] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Fifth Committee*, 41st meeting, and corrigendum.

[54] A/C.5/50/18.

[55] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 7A* (A/50/7/[Addenda]), document A/50/7/Add.11, para. 14.

[56] A/50/416, annex II, para. 48.

[57] A/C.5/50/12.

[58] A/50/312.

[59] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 7A* (A/50/7/[Addenda]), document A/50/7/Add.1.

[60] A/C.5/50/49, para. 3.

[61] A/C.5/50/30.

currence of the Advisory Committee shall not be necessary for:

(*a*) Such commitments, not exceeding a total of 5 million United States dollars in any one year of the biennium 1996-1997, as the Secretary-General certifies relate to the maintenance of peace and security;

(*b*) Such commitments as the President of the International Court of Justice certifies relate to expenses occasioned by:

- (i) The designation of ad hoc judges (Statute of the International Court of Justice, Article 31), not exceeding a total of 300,000 dollars;
- (ii) The calling of witnesses and the appointment of experts (Statute, Article 50) and the appointment of assessors (Statute, Article 30), not exceeding a total of 50,000 dollars;
- (iii) The maintenance in office for the completion of cases of judges who have not been re-elected (Statute, Article 13, paragraph 3), not exceeding a total of 40,000 dollars;
- (iv) The payment of pensions and travel and removal expenses of retiring judges and travel and removal expenses and installation grant of members of the Court (Statute, Article 32, paragraph 7), not exceeding a total of 180,000 dollars;
- (v) The work of the Court or its Chambers away from The Hague (Statute, Article 22), not exceeding a total of 50,000 dollars;

2. *Resolves* that the Secretary-General shall report to the Advisory Committee and to the General Assembly at its fifty-first and fifty-second sessions all commitments made under the provisions of the present resolution, together with the circumstances relating thereto, and shall submit supplementary estimates to the Assembly in respect of such commitments;

3. *Decides* that, for the biennium 1996-1997, if a decision of the Security Council results in the need for the Secretary-General to enter into commitments relating to the maintenance of peace and security in an amount exceeding 10 million dollars in respect of the decision, that matter shall be brought to the General Assembly, or, if the Assembly is suspended or not in session, a resumed or special session of the Assembly shall be convened by the Secretary-General to consider the matter.

100th plenary meeting
23 December 1995

50/218. Working Capital Fund for the biennium 1996-1997

The General Assembly

Resolves that:

1. The Working Capital Fund shall be established for the biennium 1996-1997 in the amount of 100 million United States dollars;

2. Member States shall make advances to the Working Capital Fund in accordance with the scale adopted by the General Assembly for contributions of Member States to the budget for the year 1996;

3. There shall be set off against this allocation of advances:

(*a*) Credits to Member States resulting from transfers made in 1959 and 1960 from the surplus account to the Working Capital Fund in an adjusted amount of 1,025,092 dollars;

(*b*) Cash advances paid by Member States to the Working Capital Fund for the biennium 1994-1995 in accordance with General Assembly resolution 48/232 of 23 December 1993;

4. Should the credits and advances paid by any Member State to the Working Capital Fund for the biennium 1994-1995 exceed the amount of that Member State's advance under the provisions of paragraph 2 above, the excess shall be set off against the amount of the contributions payable by the Member State in respect of the biennium 1996-1997;

5. The Secretary-General is authorized to advance from the Working Capital Fund:

(*a*) Such sums as may be necessary to finance budgetary appropriations pending the receipt of contributions; sums so advanced shall be reimbursed as soon as receipts from contributions are available for the purpose;

(*b*) Such sums as may be necessary to finance commitments that may be duly authorized under the provisions of the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly, in particular resolution 50/217 of 23 December 1995 relating to unforeseen and extraordinary expenses; the Secretary-General shall make provision in the budget estimates for reimbursing the Working Capital Fund;

(*c*) Such sums as may be necessary to continue the revolving fund to finance miscellaneous self-liquidating purchases and activities which, together with net sums outstanding for the same purpose, do not exceed 200,000 dollars; advances in excess of the total of 200,000 dollars may be made with the prior concurrence of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

(*d*) With the prior concurrence of the Advisory Committee, such sums as may be required to finance payments of advance insurance premiums where the period of insurance extends beyond the end of the biennium in which payment is made; the Secretary-General shall make provision in the budget estimates of each biennium, during the life of the related policies, to cover the charges applicable to each biennium;

(*e*) Such sums as may be necessary to enable the Tax Equalization Fund to meet current commitments pending the accumulation of credits; such advances shall be repaid as soon as credits are available in the Tax Equalization Fund;

6. Should the provision in paragraph 1 above prove inadequate to meet the purposes normally related to the Working Capital Fund, the Secretary-General is authorized to utilize, in the biennium 1996-1997, cash from special funds and accounts in his custody, under the conditions approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 1341 (XIII) of 13 December 1958, or the proceeds of loans authorized by the Assembly.

100th plenary meeting
23 December 1995

VIII. RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED ON THE REPORTS OF THE SIXTH COMMITTEE[1]

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[1] For the decisions adopted on the reports of the Sixth Committee, see sect. IX.B.7.

50/43. United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law

The General Assembly,

Recalling paragraph 17 of its resolution 48/29 of 9 December 1993, paragraph 1 of section IV of the annex to its resolution 47/32 of 25 November 1992 and paragraph 1 of section IV of the annex to its resolution 49/50 of 9 December 1994,

Taking note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law[2] and the guidelines and recommendations on future implementation of the Programme within the framework of the United Nations Decade of International Law, which were adopted by the Advisory Committee on the Programme and are contained in section III of that report,

Bearing in mind that the encouragement of the teaching, study, dissemination and wider appreciation of international law is one of the main objectives of the United Nations Decade of International Law, as declared in its resolution 44/23 of 17 November 1989 and further reaffirmed and expanded in section IV of the programme for the activities for the first term (1990-1992), the second term (1993-1994) and the third term (1995-1996) annexed to resolutions 45/40 of 28 November 1990, 47/32, and 49/50,

Considering that international law should occupy an appropriate place in the teaching of legal disciplines at all universities,

Noting with appreciation the efforts made by States at the bilateral level to provide assistance in the teaching and study of international law,

Convinced, nevertheless, that States and international organizations and institutions should be encouraged to give further support to the Programme and increase their activities to promote the teaching, study, dissemination and wider appreciation of international law, in particular those activities which are of special benefit to persons from developing countries,

Reaffirming its resolutions 2464 (XXIII) of 20 December 1968, 2550 (XXIV) of 12 December 1969, 2838 (XXVI) of 18 December 1971, 3106 (XXVIII) of 12 December 1973, 3502 (XXX) of 15 December 1975, 32/146 of 16 December 1977, 36/108 of 10 December 1981 and 38/129 of 19 December 1983, in which it stated or recalled that in the conduct of the Programme it was desirable to use as far as possible the resources and facilities made available by Member States, international organizations and others, as well as its resolutions 34/144 of 17 December 1979, 40/66 of 11 December 1985, 42/148 of 7 December 1987, 44/28 of 4 December 1989, 46/50 of 9 December

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[2] A/50/726.

1991 and 48/29, in which, in addition, it expressed or reaffirmed the hope that, in appointing lecturers for the seminars to be held within the framework of the fellowship programme in international law, account would be taken of the need to secure representation of major legal systems and balance among various geographical regions,

1. *Approves* the guidelines and recommendations contained in section III of the report of the Secretary-General and adopted by the Advisory Committee on the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law, in particular those designed to achieve the best possible results in the administration of the Programme within a policy of maximum financial restraint;

2. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to carry out in 1996 and 1997 the activities specified in his report, including the provision of:

(*a*) A number of international law fellowships in both 1996 and 1997, to be determined in the light of the overall resources for the Programme and to be awarded at the request of Governments of developing countries;

(*b*) A minimum of one scholarship in both 1996 and 1997 under the Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship on the Law of the Sea, subject to the availability of new voluntary contributions made specifically to the fellowship fund;

(*c*) Subject to the overall resources for the Programme, assistance in the form of a travel grant for one participant from each developing country, who would be invited to possible regional courses to be organized in 1996 and 1997;

and to finance the above activities from provisions in the regular budget, when appropriate, as well as from voluntary financial contributions earmarked for each of the activities concerned, which would be received as a result of the requests set out in paragraphs 13, 14 and 15 below;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for his constructive efforts to promote training and assistance in international law within the framework of the Programme in 1994 and 1995, in particular for the organization of the thirtieth[3] and thirty-first[4] sessions of the International Law Seminar, held at Geneva from 24 May to 10 June 1994 and from 22 May to 9 June 1995, respectively, and for the activities of the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat related to the fellowship programme in international law and to the Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship on the Law of the Sea, carried out, respectively, through its Codification Division and its Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consider the possibility of admitting, for participation in the various components of the Programme of Assistance, candidates from countries willing to bear the entire cost of such participation;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to consider the relative advantages of using available resources and voluntary contributions for regional, subregional or national courses, as against courses organized within the United Nations system;

6. *Invites* interested States to consider the option of financing the translation and publication of the Judgments of the International Court of Justice;

7. *Welcomes* the efforts undertaken by the Office of Legal Affairs to bring up to date the United Nations *Treaty Series* and the *United Nations Juridical Yearbook*;

8. *Expresses its appreciation* to the United Nations Institute for Training and Research for its participation in the Programme through the activities described in the report of the Secretary-General;

9. *Also expresses its appreciation* to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization for its participation in the Programme through the activities described in the report of the Secretary-General;

10. *Further expresses its appreciation* to the Hague Academy of International Law for the valuable contribution it continues to make to the Programme which has enabled candidates under the international law fellowship programme to attend and participate in the Programme in conjunction with the Academy courses;

11. *Notes with appreciation* the contributions of the Hague Academy of International Law to the teaching, study, dissemination and wider appreciation of international law, and calls on Member States and interested organizations to give favourable consideration to the appeal of the Academy for a continuation of support and a possible increase in their financial contributions, to enable the Academy to carry out its activities, particularly those relating to the summer courses, regional courses and programmes of the Centre for Studies and Research in International Law and International Relations;

12. *Urges* all States and relevant international organizations, whether regional or universal, to make all possible efforts to implement the goals and carry out the activities contemplated in section IV of the programme of activities for the third term (1995-1996) of the United Nations Decade of International Law, dealing with the encouragement of the teaching, study, dissemination and wider appreciation of international law and contained in the annex to its resolution 49/50;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to publicize the Programme and periodically to invite Member States, universities, philanthropic foundations and other interested national and international institutions and organizations, as well as individuals, to make voluntary contributions towards the financing of the Programme or otherwise to assist in its implementation and possible expansion;

14. *Reiterates its request* to Member States and to interested organizations and individuals to make voluntary contributions, *inter alia*, for the International Law Seminar, for the fellowship programme in international law and for the Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship on the Law of the Sea, and expresses its appreciation to those Member States, institutions and individuals which have made voluntary contributions for this purpose;

15. *Urges* in particular all Governments to make voluntary contributions for the organization of regional refresher courses in international law by the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, especially with a view to covering the amount needed for the financing of the daily subsistence allowance for up to twenty-five participants in each regional course, thus alleviating the burden

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[3] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 10* (A/49/10), chap. VI, sect. G.

[4] Ibid., *Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 10* (A/50/10), chap. VII, sect. E.

on prospective host countries and making it possible for the Institute to continue to organize the regional courses;

16. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session on the implementation of the Programme during 1996 and 1997 and, following consultations with the Advisory Committee on the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law, to submit recommendations regarding the execution of the Programme in subsequent years;

17. *Decides* to appoint twenty-five Member States, six from Africa, five from Asia, three from Eastern Europe, five from Latin America and the Caribbean and six from Western Europe and other States, as members of the Advisory Committee on the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law, for a period of four years beginning on 1 January 1996;[5]

18. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-second session the item entitled "United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law".

87th plenary meeting
11 December 1995

50/44. United Nations Decade of International Law

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 44/23 of 17 November 1989, by which it declared the period 1990-1999 the United Nations Decade of International Law,

Recalling also that the main purposes of the Decade, according to resolution 44/23, should be, *inter alia*:

(*a*) To promote acceptance of and respect for the principles of international law;

(*b*) To promote means and methods for the peaceful settlement of disputes between States, including resort to and full respect for the International Court of Justice;

(*c*) To encourage the progressive development of international law and its codification;

(*d*) To encourage the teaching, study, dissemination and wider appreciation of international law,

Recalling further its resolution 49/50 of 9 December 1994, to which was annexed the programme for the activities for the third term (1995-1996) of the Decade,

Expressing its appreciation to the Secretary-General for his report[6] submitted pursuant to resolution 49/50,

Having considered the above-mentioned report,

Recalling that at the forty-fifth session of the General Assembly the Sixth Committee established the Working Group on the United Nations Decade of International Law with a view to preparing generally acceptable recommendations on the programme of activities for the Decade,

Noting that at the forty-sixth, forty-seventh, forty-eighth, forty-ninth and fiftieth sessions the Sixth Committee reconvened the Working Group to continue its work in accordance with resolutions 45/40 of 28 November 1990, 46/53 of 9 December 1991, 47/32 of 25 November 1992, 48/30 of 9 December 1993 and 49/50,

Having considered the oral report of the Chairman of the Working Group submitted to the Sixth Committee,[7]

1. *Expresses its appreciation* for the work done on the United Nations Decade of International Law at the current session, and requests the Working Group of the Sixth Committee to continue its work at the fifty-first session in accordance with its mandate and methods of work;

2. *Also expresses its appreciation* to States and international organizations and institutions that have undertaken activities in implementation of the programme for the activities for the third term (1995-1996) of the Decade, including sponsoring conferences on various subjects of international law;

3. *Further expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for the successful organization of the United Nations Congress on Public International Law, held from 13 to 17 March 1995, noting with satisfaction that the Congress emphasized the importance of all aspects of international law and focused on the four main purposes of the Decade, as well as on new challenges and expectations for the twenty-first century, and requests the Secretary-General, within existing resources, to make the proceedings widely available;

4. *Strongly welcomes* the recent advances made by the Treaty Section of the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat in its programme of computerization of the *Multilateral Treaties Deposited with the Secretary-General* and the United Nations *Treaty Series* and looks forward to the early effective availability of the former on the Internet and the latter on-line to Member States and other users;

5. *Invites* all States and international organizations and institutions referred to in the programme to provide, update or supplement information on activities they have undertaken in implementation of it, as appropriate, to the Secretary-General, as well as to submit their views on possible activities for the next term of the Decade;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit, on the basis of such information as well as of new information on the activities of the United Nations relevant to the progressive development of international law and its codification, a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session on the implementation of the programme;

7. *Encourages* States to disseminate at the national level, as appropriate, information contained in the report of the Secretary-General;

8. *Appeals* to States, international organizations and non-governmental organizations working in the field of international law and to the private sector to make financial contributions or contributions in kind for the purpose of facilitating the implementation of the programme;

9. *Encourages* the Office of Legal Affairs to continue in its efforts to bring up to date the publication of the United Nations *Treaty Series* and the *United Nations Juridical Yearbook*;

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[5] States appointed members of the Advisory Committee on the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law are the following: Canada, Colombia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Ethiopia, France, Germany, Ghana, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Italy, Jamaica, Kenya, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mexico, Nigeria, Pakistan, Portugal, Russian Federation, Sudan, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukraine, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America and Uruguay.

[6] A/50/368 and Add.1-3.

[7] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Sixth Committee*, 45th meeting, and corrigendum.

10. *Once again requests* the Secretary-General to bring to the attention of States and international organizations and institutions working in the field of international law the programme annexed to resolution 49/50;

11. *Invites* the International Committee of the Red Cross to continue to report on activities undertaken by the Committee and other relevant bodies with regard to the protection of the environment in times of armed conflict, so that the information received may be included in the report to be prepared pursuant to paragraph 6 above;

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session the item entitled "United Nations Decade of International Law".

87th plenary meeting
11 December 1995

50/45. Report of the International Law Commission on the work of its forty-seventh session

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the International Law Commission on the work of its forty-seventh session,[8]

Emphasizing the importance of furthering the progressive development of international law and its codification as a means of implementing the purposes and principles set forth in the Charter of the United Nations and in the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,[9]

Emphasizing also the role of the International Law Commission in the fulfilment of the objectives of the United Nations Decade of International Law,

Recognizing the desirability of referring legal and drafting questions to the Sixth Committee, including topics that might be submitted to the International Law Commission for closer examination, and of enabling the Sixth Committee and the Commission further to enhance their contribution to the progressive development of international law and its codification,

Recalling the need to keep under review those topics of international law which, given their new or renewed interest for the international community, may be suitable for the progressive development and codification of international law and therefore may be included in the future programme of work of the International Law Commission,

Stressing the usefulness of structuring the debate on the report of the International Law Commission in the Sixth Committee in such a manner that conditions are provided for concentrated attention on each of the main topics dealt with in the report,

Wishing to enhance further the interaction between the Sixth Committee as a body of government representatives and the International Law Commission as a body of independent legal experts, with a view to improving the dialogue between the two organs,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the International Law Commission on the work of its forty-seventh session and of the Commission's efforts to advance the work currently under consideration;

2. *Notes* the intentions of the International Law Commission for the programme of work for the last year of office of its members;

3. *Urges* the Commission at its forty-eighth session:

(*a*) To resume the work on the draft Code of Crimes against the Peace and Security of Mankind in such a manner that the second reading of the draft Code may be completed at that session;

(*b*) To resume the work on the draft articles on State responsibility in such a manner that the first reading of that draft may be completed at that session, taking into account the divergent views expressed during the Sixth Committee's debate on the topic, so that alternative approaches may be developed when necessary;

(*c*) To resume the work on the topic "International liability for injurious consequences arising out of acts not prohibited by international law" in order to complete the first reading of the draft articles relating to activities that risk causing transboundary harm;

4. *Notes* the beginning of the work on the topics "The law and practice relating to reservations to treaties" and "State succession and its impact on the nationality of natural and legal persons", and invites the Commission to continue its work on these topics along the lines indicated in the report;

5. *Invites* States and international organizations, particularly those which are depositaries, to answer promptly the questionnaire prepared by the Special Rapporteur on the topic concerning reservations to treaties;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to again invite Governments to submit as soon as possible relevant materials, including treaties, national legislation, decisions of national tribunals and diplomatic and official correspondence relevant to the topic "State succession and its impact on the nationality of natural and legal persons";

7. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for the update of the survey of State practice relevant to international liability for injurious consequences arising out of acts not prohibited by international law, prepared by the Secretariat in 1984;[10]

8. *Notes* the suggestions of the International Law Commission to include in its agenda the topic "Diplomatic protection" and initiate a feasibility study on a topic concerning the law of the environment, and decides to invite Governments to submit comments on these suggestions through the Secretary-General for consideration by the Sixth Committee during the fifty-first session of the General Assembly;

9. *Requests* the International Law Commission:

(*a*) To examine the procedures of its work for the purpose of further enhancing its contribution to the progressive development and codification of international law and to include its views in its report to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session;

(*b*) To continue to pay special attention to indicating in its annual report, for each topic, those specific issues, if any, on which expressions of views by Governments, either in the Sixth Committee or in written form, would be of particular interest in providing effective guidance for the Commission in its further work;

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[8] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 10* (A/50/10).

[9] Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

[10] *Yearbook of the International Law Commission, 1985*, vol. II, part I (addendum) (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.86.V.9 (Part I/Add.1)).

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to invite Governments to comment on the present state of the codification process within the United Nations system and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session;

11. *Takes note* of the comments of the International Law Commission on the question of the duration of its session, as presented in its report,[11] and expresses the view that the requirements of the work for the progressive development of international law and its codification and the magnitude and complexity of the subjects on the agenda of the Commission make it desirable that the usual duration of its sessions be maintained;

12. *Reaffirms* its previous decisions concerning the role of the Codification Division of the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat and those concerning the summary records and other documentation of the International Law Commission;

13. *Once again expresses the wish* that seminars will continue to be held in conjunction with the sessions of the International Law Commission and that an increasing number of participants from developing countries will be given the opportunity to attend those seminars, appeals to States that can do so to make the voluntary contributions that are urgently needed for the holding of the seminars, and requests the Secretary-General to provide the seminars, from within existing resources, with adequate services, including interpretation, as required;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to forward to the International Law Commission, for its attention, the records of the debate on the report of the Commission at the fiftieth session of the General Assembly, together with such written statements as delegations may circulate in conjunction with their oral statements, and to prepare and distribute a topical summary of the debate, following established practice;

15. *Recommends* that the debate on the report of the International Law Commission at the fifty-first session of the General Assembly commence on 4 November 1996.

87th plenary meeting
11 December 1995

50/46. Establishment of an international criminal court

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 47/33 of 25 November 1992, in which it requested the International Law Commission to undertake the elaboration of a draft statute for an international criminal court,

Recalling also its resolution 48/31 of 9 December 1993, in which it requested the International Law Commission to continue its work on the question of the draft statute for an international criminal court,[12] with a view to elaborating a draft statute for such a court, if possible at the Commission's forty-sixth session in 1994,[13]

Recalling further that the International Law Commission adopted a draft statute for an international criminal court[12] at its forty-sixth session and decided to recommend that an international conference of plenipotentiaries be convened to study the draft statute and to conclude a convention on the establishment of an international criminal court,

Recalling its resolution 49/53 of 9 December 1994, in which it decided to establish an ad hoc committee, open to all States Members of the United Nations or members of specialized agencies, to review the major substantive and administrative issues arising out of the draft statute prepared by the International Law Commission and, in the light of that review, to consider arrangements for the convening of an international conference of plenipotentiaries,

Noting that the Ad Hoc Committee on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court has made considerable progress during its sessions on the review of the major substantive and administrative issues arising out of the draft statute prepared by the International Law Commission,

Noting also that the States participating in the Ad Hoc Committee still have different views on major substantive and administrative issues arising out of the draft statute prepared by the International Law Commission and that, therefore, further discussions are needed for reaching consensus on the above issues in the future,

Noting further that the Ad Hoc Committee is of the opinion that issues can be addressed most effectively by combining further discussions with the drafting of texts, with a view to preparing a consolidated text of a convention for an international criminal court as a next step towards consideration by a conference of plenipotentiaries,

Noting that the Ad Hoc Committee recommends that the General Assembly take up the organization of future work with a view to its early completion, given the interest of the international community in the establishment of an international criminal court,

Noting also that the Ad Hoc Committee encourages participation by the largest number of States in its future work in order to promote universality,

Expressing deep appreciation for the renewed offer of the Government of Italy to host a conference on the establishment of an international criminal court,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court,[14] including the recommendations contained therein, and expresses its appreciation to the Ad Hoc Committee for the useful work done;

2. *Decides* to establish a preparatory committee open to all States Members of the United Nations or members of specialized agencies or of the International Atomic Energy Agency, to discuss further the major substantive and administrative issues arising out of the draft statute prepared by the International Law Commission and, taking into account the different views expressed during the meetings, to draft texts, with a view to preparing a widely acceptable consolidated text of a convention for an international criminal court as a next step towards consideration by a conference of plenipotentiaries, and also decides that the work of the Preparatory Committee should be based on the draft statute prepared by the International Law Commission and should take into account the report of the Ad Hoc Committee and the written comments submitted by States to the Secretary-General on the draft statute for an international criminal court pursuant to paragraph 4 of General Assembly resolution 49/53[15] and, as appropriate, contributions of relevant organizations;

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[11] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 10* (A/50/10), para. 513.

[12] Ibid., *Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 10* (A/49/10), para. 91.

[13] Ibid., para. 90.

[14] Ibid., *Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 22* (A/50/22).

[15] A/AC.244/1 and Add.1-4.

3. *Also decides* that the Preparatory Committee will meet from 25 March to 12 April and from 12 to 30 August 1996 and submit its report to the General Assembly at the beginning of its fifty-first session, and requests the Secretary-General to provide the Preparatory Committee with the necessary facilities for the performance of its work;

4. *Urges* participation in the Preparatory Committee by the largest number of States in order to promote universal support for an international criminal court;

5. *Further decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session an item entitled "Establishment of an international criminal court", in order to study the report of the Preparatory Committee and, in the light of that report, to decide on the convening of an international conference of plenipotentiaries to finalize and adopt a convention on the establishment of an international criminal court, including on the timing and the duration of the conference.

87th plenary meeting
11 December 1995

50/47. Report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its twenty-eighth session

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2205 (XXI) of 17 December 1966, by which it created the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law with a mandate to further the progressive harmonization and unification of the law of international trade and in that respect to bear in mind the interests of all peoples, in particular those of developing countries, in the extensive development of international trade,

Reaffirming its conviction that the progressive harmonization and unification of international trade law, in reducing or removing legal obstacles to the flow of international trade, especially those affecting the developing countries, would significantly contribute to universal economic cooperation among all States on a basis of equality, equity and common interest and to the elimination of discrimination in international trade and thereby to the well-being of all peoples,

Stressing the value of participation by States at all levels of economic development and with different legal systems in the process of harmonizing and unifying international trade law,

Having considered the report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its twenty-eighth session,[16]

Mindful of the valuable contribution to be rendered by the Commission within the framework of the United Nations Decade of International Law, particularly as regards the dissemination of international trade law,

Concerned about the relatively low incidence of expert representation from developing countries at sessions of the Commission and particularly of its working groups during recent years, owing in part to inadequate resources to finance the travel of such experts,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[17]

Concerned also about the fact that the need for and interest in the training and assistance programme of the Commission can only partially be met, in view of the limited human and financial resources available, and that the work of the Secretariat in the context of the Case-Law on the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law Texts would substantially increase as the number of the court decisions and arbitral awards covered thereby grows,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its twenty-eighth session;

2. *Notes with satisfaction* the completion and adoption by the Commission of the draft Convention on Independent Guarantees and Stand-by Letters of Credit;[18]

3. *Commends* the Commission for the progress made at its twenty-eighth session in the preparation of a draft Model Law on Legal Aspects of Electronic Data Interchange and Related Means of Communication, as well as in the preparation of draft Notes on Organizing Arbitral Proceedings, and in this connection welcomes the decision of the Commission to continue its consideration of the draft Model Law and the draft Notes with a view to completing its work during its twenty-ninth session;

4. *Welcomes* the decision of the Commission to commence work on the subjects of receivables financing and cross-border insolvency, and to consider the feasibility and desirability of undertaking work on negotiability and transferability of electronic data interchange transport documents, based on a background study to be prepared by the Secretariat and on the discussion of the topic by the Working Group on Electronic Data Interchange at its thirtieth session;

5. *Reaffirms* the mandate of the Commission, as the core legal body within the United Nations system in the field of international trade law, to coordinate legal activities in this field in order to avoid duplication of effort and to promote efficiency, consistency and coherence in the unification and harmonization of international trade law, and in this connection recommends that the Commission, through its secretariat, continue to maintain close cooperation with the other international organs and organizations, including regional organizations, active in the field of international trade law;

6. *Also reaffirms* the importance, in particular for developing countries, of the work of the Commission concerned with training and technical assistance in the field of international trade law, such as assistance in the preparation of national legislation based on legal texts of the Commission;

7. *Expresses* the desirability for increased efforts by the Commission in sponsoring seminars and symposia to provide such training and technical assistance, and in this connection:

(*a*) Expresses its appreciation to the Commission for organizing seminars and briefing missions in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Botswana, China, Colombia, the Czech Republic, Georgia, Kenya, Namibia, Panama, Uzbekistan and Zimbabwe;

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[16] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/50/17).

[17] A/50/434.

[18] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/50/17), annex I.

(*b*) Expresses its appreciation to the Governments whose contributions made it possible for the seminars and briefing missions to take place, and appeals to Governments, the relevant United Nations organs, organizations and institutions and individuals to make voluntary contributions to the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law Trust Fund for Symposia and, where appropriate, to the financing of special projects, and otherwise to assist the secretariat of the Commission in financing and organizing seminars and symposia, in particular in developing countries, and in the award of fellowships to candidates from developing countries to enable them to participate in such seminars and symposia;

(*c*) Appeals to the United Nations Development Programme and other bodies responsible for development assistance, such as the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, as well as to Governments in their bilateral aid programmes, to support the training and technical assistance programme of the Commission and to cooperate and coordinate their activities with those of the Commission;

8. *Appeals* to Governments, the relevant United Nations organs, organizations and institutions and individuals, in order to ensure full participation by all Member States in the sessions of the Commission and its working groups, to make voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund for travel assistance to developing countries that are members of the Commission, at their request and in consultation with the Secretary-General;

9. *Decides*, in order to ensure full participation by all Member States in the sessions of the Commission and its working groups, to continue its consideration in the competent Main Committee during the fiftieth session of the General Assembly of granting travel assistance, within existing resources, to the least developed countries that are members of the Commission, at their request and in consultation with the Secretary-General;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that adequate resources are allocated for the effective implementation of the programmes of the Commission;

11. *Stresses* the importance of bringing into effect the conventions emanating from the work of the Commission for the global unification and harmonization of international trade law, and to this end urges States that have not yet done so to consider signing, ratifying or acceding to those conventions;

12. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of paragraph 9 above to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session.

87th plenary meeting
11 December 1995

50/48. United Nations Convention on Independent Guarantees and Stand-by Letters of Credit

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2205 (XXI) of 17 December 1966, by which it created the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law with a mandate to further the progressive harmonization and unification of the law of international trade and in that respect to bear in mind the interests of all peoples, in particular those of developing countries, in the extensive development of international trade,

Being aware of the uncertainty and lack of uniformity currently prevailing among the various legal systems in the field of independent guarantees and stand-by letters of credit,

Being convinced that the adoption of a convention on independent guarantees and stand-by letters of credit will usefully contribute to overcoming the current uncertainties and disparities in this field of considerable practical importance and thus facilitate the use of such instruments,

Being aware also that the Commission, at its twenty-second session in 1989, decided to prepare uniform legislation on independent guarantees and stand-by letters of credit and entrusted the Working Group on International Contract Practices with the preparation of a draft,

Noting that the Working Group devoted eleven sessions, from 1990 to 1995, to the preparation of the draft United Nations Convention on Independent Guarantees and Stand-by Letters of Credit, and that all States and interested international organizations were invited to participate in the preparation of the draft Convention at all the sessions of the Working Group and at the twenty-eighth session of the Commission, either as members or observers, with a full opportunity to speak and make proposals,

Taking note with satisfaction of the decision of the Commission at its twenty-eighth session[19] to submit the draft Convention to the General Assembly for its consideration,

Taking note of the draft Convention adopted by the Commission,[18]

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law for preparing the draft United Nations Convention on Independent Guarantees and Stand-by Letters of Credit;

2. *Adopts* and opens for signature or accession the United Nations Convention on Independent Guarantees and Stand-by Letters of Credit, contained in the annex to the present resolution;

3. *Calls upon* all Governments to consider becoming party to the Convention.

87th plenary meeting
11 December 1995

ANNEX

United Nations Convention on Independent Guarantees and Stand-by Letters of Credit

CHAPTER I. SCOPE OF APPLICATION

Article 1
Scope of application

1. This Convention applies to an international undertaking referred to in article 2:

(*a*) If the place of business of the guarantor/issuer at which the undertaking is issued is in a Contracting State; or

(*b*) If the rules of private international law lead to the application of the law of a Contracting State,

unless the undertaking excludes the application of the Convention.

2. This Convention applies also to an international letter of credit not falling within article 2 if it expressly states that it is subject to this Convention.

3. The provisions of articles 21 and 22 apply to international undertakings referred to in article 2 independently of paragraph 1 of this article.

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[19] Ibid., *Supplement No. 17* (A/50/17), para. 201.

Article 2
Undertaking

1. For the purposes of this Convention, an undertaking is an independent commitment, known in international practice as an independent guarantee or as a stand-by letter of credit, given by a bank or other institution or persons ("guarantor/issuer") to pay to the beneficiary a certain or determinable amount upon simple demand or upon demand accompanied by other documents, in conformity with the terms and any documentary conditions of the undertaking, indicating, or from which it is to be inferred, that payment is due because of a default in the performance of an obligation, or because of another contingency, or for money borrowed or advanced, or on account of any mature indebtedness undertaken by the principal/applicant or another person.

2. The undertaking may be given:

(*a*) At the request or on the instruction of the customer ("principal/applicant") of the guarantor/issuer;

(*b*) On the instruction of another bank, institution or person ("instructing party") that acts at the request of the customer ("principal/applicant") of that instructing party; or

(*c*) On behalf of the guarantor/issuer itself.

3. Payment may be stipulated in the undertaking to be made in any form, including:

(*a*) Payment in a specified currency or unit of account;

(*b*) Acceptance of a bill of exchange (draft);

(*c*) Payment on a deferred basis;

(*d*) Supply of a specified item of value.

4. The undertaking may stipulate that the guarantor/issuer itself is the beneficiary when acting in favour of another person.

Article 3
Independence of undertaking

For the purposes of this Convention, an undertaking is independent where the guarantor/issuer's obligation to the beneficiary is not:

(*a*) Dependent upon the existence or validity of any underlying transaction, or upon any other undertaking (including stand-by letters of credit or independent guarantees to which confirmations or counter-guarantees relate); or

(*b*) Subject to any term or condition not appearing in the undertaking, or to any future, uncertain act or event except presentation of documents or another such act or event within a guarantor/issuer's sphere of operations.

Article 4
Internationality of undertaking

1. An undertaking is international if the places of business, as specified in the undertaking, of any two of the following persons are in different States: guarantor/issuer, beneficiary, principal/applicant, instructing party, confirmer.

2. For the purposes of the preceding paragraph:

(*a*) If the undertaking lists more than one place of business for a given person, the relevant place of business is that which has the closest relationship to the undertaking;

(*b*) If the undertaking does not specify a place of business for a given person but specifies its habitual residence, that residence is relevant for determining the international character of the undertaking.

CHAPTER II. INTERPRETATION

Article 5
Principles of interpretation

In the interpretation of this Convention, regard is to be had to its international character and to the need to promote uniformity in its application and the observance of good faith in the international practice of independent guarantees and stand-by letters of credit.

Article 6
Definitions

For the purposes of this Convention and unless otherwise indicated in a provision of this Convention or required by the context:

(*a*) "Undertaking" includes "counter-guarantee" and "confirmation of an undertaking";

(*b*) "Guarantor/issuer" includes "counter-guarantor" and "confirmer";

(*c*) "Counter-guarantee" means an undertaking given to the guarantor/issuer of another undertaking by its instructing party and providing for payment upon simple demand or upon demand accompanied by other documents, in conformity with the terms and any documentary conditions of the undertaking, indicating, or from which it is to be inferred, that payment under that other undertaking has been demanded from, or made by, the person issuing that other undertaking;

(*d*) "Counter-guarantor" means the person issuing a counter-guarantee;

(*e*) "Confirmation" of an undertaking means an undertaking added to that of the guarantor/issuer, and authorized by the guarantor/issuer, providing the beneficiary with the option of demanding payment from the confirmer instead of from the guarantor/issuer, upon simple demand or upon demand accompanied by other documents, in conformity with the terms and any documentary conditions of the confirmed undertaking, without prejudice to the beneficiary's right to demand payment from the guarantor/issuer;

(*f*) "Confirmer" means the person adding a confirmation to an undertaking;

(*g*) "Document" means a communication made in a form that provides a complete record thereof.

CHAPTER III. FORM AND CONTENT OF UNDERTAKING

Article 7
Issuance, form and irrevocability of undertaking

1. Issuance of an undertaking occurs when and where the undertaking leaves the sphere of control of the guarantor/issuer concerned.

2. An undertaking may be issued in any form which preserves a complete record of the text of the undertaking and provides authentication of its source by generally accepted means or by a procedure agreed upon by the guarantor/issuer and the beneficiary.

3. From the time of issuance of an undertaking, a demand for payment may be made in accordance with the terms and conditions of the undertaking, unless the undertaking stipulates a different time.

4. An undertaking is irrevocable upon issuance, unless it stipulates that it is revocable.

Article 8
Amendment

1. An undertaking may not be amended except in the form stipulated in the undertaking or, failing such stipulation, in a form referred to in paragraph 2 of article 7.

2. Unless otherwise stipulated in the undertaking or elsewhere agreed by the guarantor/issuer and the beneficiary, an undertaking is amended upon issuance of the amendment if the amendment has previously been authorized by the beneficiary.

3. Unless otherwise stipulated in the undertaking or elsewhere agreed by the guarantor/issuer and the beneficiary, where any amendment has not previously been authorized by the beneficiary, the undertaking is amended only when the guarantor/issuer receives a notice of acceptance of the amendment by the beneficiary in a form referred to in paragraph 2 of article 7.

4. An amendment of an undertaking has no effect on the rights and obligations of the principal/applicant (or an instructing party) or of a confirmer of the undertaking unless such person consents to the amendment.

Article 9
Transfer of beneficiary's right to demand payment

1. The beneficiary's right to demand payment may be transferred only if authorized in the undertaking, and only to the extent and in the manner authorized in the undertaking.

2. If an undertaking is designated as transferable without specifying whether or not the consent of the guarantor/issuer or another authorized person is required for the actual transfer, neither the guarantor/issuer nor any other authorized person is obliged to effect the transfer except to the extent and in the manner expressly consented to by it.

Article 10
Assignment of records

1. Unless otherwise stipulated in the undertaking or elsewhere agreed by the guarantor/issuer and the beneficiary, the beneficiary may assign to another person any proceeds to which it may be, or may become, entitled under the undertaking.

2. If the guarantor/issuer or another person obliged to effect payment has received a notice originating from the beneficiary, in a form referred to in paragraph 2 of article 7, of the beneficiary's irrevocable assignment, payment to the assignee discharges the obligor, to the extent of its payment, from its liability under the undertaking.

Article 11
Cessation of right to demand payment

1. The right of the beneficiary to demand payment under the undertaking ceases when:

(*a*) The guarantor/issuer has received a statement by the beneficiary of release from liability in a form referred to in paragraph 2 of article 7;

(*b*) The beneficiary and the guarantor/issuer have agreed on the termination of the undertaking in the form stipulated in the undertaking or, failing such stipulation, in a form referred to in paragraph 2 of article 7;

(*c*) The amount available under the undertaking has been paid, unless the undertaking provides for the automatic renewal or for an automatic increase of the amount available or otherwise provides for continuation of the undertaking;

(*d*) The validity period of the undertaking expires in accordance with the provisions of article 12.

2. The undertaking may stipulate, or the guarantor/issuer and the beneficiary may agree elsewhere, that return of the document embodying the undertaking to the guarantor/issuer, or a procedure functionally equivalent to the return of the document in the case of the issuance of the undertaking in non-paper form, is required for the cessation of the right to demand payment, either alone or in conjunction with one of the events referred to in subparagraphs (*a*) and (*b*) of paragraph 1 of this article. However, in no case shall retention of any such document by the beneficiary after the right to demand payment ceases in accordance with subparagraph (*c*) or (*d*) of paragraph 1 of this article preserve any rights of the beneficiary under the undertaking.

Article 12
Expiry

The validity period of the undertaking expires:

(*a*) At the expiry date, which may be a specified calendar date or the last day of a fixed period of time stipulated in the undertaking, provided that, if the expiry date is not a business day at the place of business of the guarantor/issuer at which the undertaking is issued, or of another person or at another place stipulated in the undertaking for presentation of the demand for payment, expiry occurs on the first business day which follows;

(*b*) If expiry depends according to the undertaking on the occurrence of an act or event not within the guarantor/issuer's sphere of operations, when the guarantor/issuer is advised that the act or event has occurred by presentation of the document specified for that purpose in the undertaking or, if no such document is specified, of a certification by the beneficiary of the occurrence of the act or event;

(*c*) If the undertaking does not state an expiry date, or if the act or event on which expiry is stated to depend has not yet been established by presentation of the required document and an expiry date has not been stated in addition, when six years have elapsed from the date of issuance of the undertaking.

CHAPTER IV. RIGHTS, OBLIGATIONS AND DEFENCES

Article 13
Determination of rights and obligations

1. The rights and obligations of the guarantor/issuer and the beneficiary arising from the undertaking are determined by the terms and conditions set forth in the undertaking, including any rules, general conditions or usages specifically referred to therein, and by the provisions of this Convention.

2. In interpreting terms and conditions of the undertaking and in settling questions that are not addressed by the terms and conditions of the undertaking or by the provisions of this Convention, regard shall be had to generally accepted international rules and usages of independent guarantee or stand-by letter of credit practice.

Article 14
Standard of conduct and liability of guarantor/issuer

1. In discharging its obligations under the undertaking and this Convention, the guarantor/issuer shall act in good faith and exercise reasonable care having due regard to generally accepted standards of international practice of independent guarantees or stand-by letters of credit.

2. A guarantor/issuer may not be exempted from liability for its failure to act in good faith or for any grossly negligent conduct.

Article 15
Demand

1. Any demand for payment under the undertaking shall be made in a form referred to in paragraph 2 of article 7 and in conformity with the terms and conditions of the undertaking.

2. Unless otherwise stipulated in the undertaking, the demand and any certification or other document required by the undertaking shall be presented, within the time that a demand for payment may be made, to the guarantor/issuer at the place where the undertaking was issued.

3. The beneficiary, when demanding payment, is deemed to certify that the demand is not in bad faith and that none of the elements referred to in subparagraphs (*a*), (*b*) and (*c*) of paragraph 1 of article 19 are present.

Article 16
Examination of demand and accompanying documents

1. The guarantor/issuer shall examine the demand and any accompanying documents in accordance with the standard of conduct referred to in paragraph 1 of article 14. In determining whether documents are in facial conformity with the terms and conditions of the undertaking, and are consistent with one another, the guarantor/issuer shall have due regard to the applicable international standard of independent guarantee or stand-by letter of credit.

2. Unless otherwise stipulated in the undertaking or elsewhere agreed by the guarantor/issuer and the beneficiary, the guarantor/issuer shall have reasonable time, but not more than seven business days following the day of receipt of the demand and any accompanying documents, in which to:

(*a*) Examine the demand and any accompanying documents;

(*b*) Decide whether or not to pay;

(*c*) If the decision is not to pay, issue notice thereof to the beneficiary.

The notice referred to in subparagraph (*c*) above shall, unless otherwise stipulated in the undertaking or elsewhere agreed by the guarantor/issuer and the beneficiary, be made by teletransmission or, if that is not possible, by other expeditious means and indicate the reason for the decision not to pay.

Article 17
Payment

1. Subject to article 19, the guarantor/issuer shall pay against a demand made in accordance with the provisions of article 15. Following a determination that a demand for payment so conforms, payment shall be made promptly, unless the undertaking stipulates payment on a deferred basis, in which case payment shall be made at the stipulated time.

2. Any payment against a demand that is not in accordance with the provisions of article 15 does not prejudice the rights of the principal/applicant.

Article 18
Set-off

Unless otherwise stipulated in the undertaking or elsewhere agreed by the guarantor/issuer and the beneficiary, the guarantor/issuer may discharge the payment obligation under the undertaking by availing itself of a right of set-off, except with any claim assigned to it by the principal/applicant or the instructing party.

Article 19
Exception to payment obligation

1. If it is manifest and clear that:

(*a*) Any document is not genuine or has been falsified;

(*b*) No payment is due on the basis asserted in the demand and the supporting documents; or

(*c*) Judging by the type and purpose of the undertaking, the demand has no conceivable basis,

the guarantor/issuer, acting in good faith, has a right, as against the beneficiary, to withhold payment.

2. For the purposes of subparagraph (*c*) of paragraph 1 of this article, the following are types of situations in which a demand has no conceivable basis:

(*a*) The contingency or risk against which the undertaking was designed to secure the beneficiary has undoubtedly not materialized;

(*b*) The underlying obligation of the principal/applicant has been declared invalid by a court or arbitral tribunal, unless the undertaking indicates that such contingency falls within the risk to be covered by the undertaking;

(*c*) The underlying obligation has undoubtedly been fulfilled to the satisfaction of the beneficiary;

(*d*) Fulfilment of the underlying obligation has clearly been prevented by wilful misconduct of the beneficiary;

(*e*) In the case of a demand under a counter-guarantee, the beneficiary of the counter-guarantee has made payment in bad faith as guarantor/issuer of the undertaking to which the counter-guarantee relates.

3. In the circumstances set out in subparagraphs (*a*), (*b*) and (*c*) of paragraph 1 of this article, the principal/applicant is entitled to provisional court measures in accordance with article 20.

CHAPTER V. PROVISIONAL COURT MEASURES

Article 20
Provisional court measures

1. Where, on an application by the principal/applicant or the instructing party, it is shown that there is a high probability that, with regard to a demand made, or expected to be made, by the beneficiary, one of the circumstances referred in subparagraphs (*a*), (*b*) and (*c*) of paragraph 1 of article 19 is present, the court, on the basis of immediately available strong evidence, may:

(*a*) Issue a provisional order to the effect that the beneficiary does not receive payment, including an order that the guarantor/issuer hold the amount of the undertaking; or

(*b*) Issue a provisional order to the effect that the proceeds of the undertaking paid to the beneficiary are blocked, taking into account whether in the absence of such an order the principal/applicant would be likely to suffer serious harm.

2. The court, when issuing a provisional order referred to in paragraph 1 of this article, may require the person applying therefor to furnish such form of security as the court deems appropriate.

3. The court may not issue a provisional order of the kind referred to in paragraph 1 of this article based on any objection to payment other than those referred to in subparagraphs (*a*), (*b*) and (*c*) of paragraph 1 of article 19, or use of the undertaking for a criminal purpose.

CHAPTER VI. CONFLICT OF LAWS

Article 21
Choice of applicable law

The undertaking is governed by the law the choice of which is:

(*a*) Stipulated in the undertaking or demonstrated by the terms and conditions of the undertaking; or

(*b*) Agreed elsewhere by the guarantor/issuer and the beneficiary.

Article 22
Determination of applicable law

Failing a choice of law in accordance with article 21, the undertaking is governed by the law of the State where the guarantor/issuer has that place of business at which the undertaking was issued.

CHAPTER VII. FINAL CLAUSES

Article 23
Depositary

The Secretary-General of the United Nations is the depositary of this Convention.

Article 24
Signature, ratification, acceptance, approval, accession

1. This Convention is open for signature by all States at the Headquarters of the United Nations, New York, until . . . [the date two years from the date of adoption].

2. This Convention is subject to ratification, acceptance or approval by the signatory States.

3. This Convention is open to accession by all States which are not signatory States as from the date it is open for signature.

4. Instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval and accession are to be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

Article 25
Application to territorial units

1. If a State has two or more territorial units in which different systems of law are applicable in relation to the matters dealt with in this Convention, it may, at the time of signature, ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, declare that this Convention is to extend to all its territorial units or only one or more of them, and may at any time substitute another declaration for its earlier declaration.

2. These declarations are to state expressly the territorial units to which the Convention extends.

3. If, by virtue of a declaration under this article, this Convention does not extend to all territorial units of a State and the place of business of the guarantor/issuer or of the beneficiary is located in a territorial unit to which the Convention does not extend, this place of business is considered not to be in a Contracting State.

4. If a State makes no declaration under paragraph 1 of this article, the Convention is to extend to all territorial units of that State.

Article 26
Effect of declaration

1. Declarations made under article 25 at the time of signature are subject to confirmation upon ratification, acceptance or approval.

2. Declarations and confirmations of declarations are to be in writing and to be formally notified to the depositary.

3. A declaration takes effect simultaneously with the entry into force of this Convention in respect of the State concerned. However, a declaration of which the depositary receives formal notification after such entry into force takes effect on the first day of the month following the expiration of six months after the date of its receipt by the depositary.

4. Any State which makes a declaration under article 25 may withdraw it at any time by a formal notification in writing addressed to the depositary. Such withdrawal takes effect on the first day of the month following the expiration of six months after the date of the receipt of the notification of the depositary.

Article 27
Reservations

No reservations may be made to this Convention.

Article 28
Entry into force

1. This Convention enters into force on the first day of the month following the expiration of one year from the date of the deposit of the fifth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession.

2. For each State which becomes a Contracting State to this Convention after the date of the deposit of the fifth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, this Convention enters into force on the first day of the month following the expiration of one year after the date of the deposit of the appropriate instrument on behalf of that State.

3. This Convention applies only to undertakings issued on or after the date when the Convention enters into force in respect of the Con-

tracting State referred to in subparagraph (*a*) or the Contracting State referred to in subparagraph (*b*) of paragraph 1 of article 1.

Article 29
Denunciation

1. A Contracting State may denounce this Convention at any time by means of a notification in writing addressed to the depositary.

2. The denunciation takes effect on the first day of the month following the expiration of one year after the notification is received by the depositary. Where a longer period is specified in the notification, the denunciation takes effect upon the expiration of such longer period after the notification is received by the depositary.

DONE at . . . , this . . . day of . . . one thousand nine hundred and ninety-. . . , in a single original, of which the Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish texts are equally authentic.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned plenipotentiaries, being duly authorized by their respective Governments, have signed the present Convention.

50/49. Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country,[20]

Recalling Article 105 of the Charter of the United Nations, the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations[21] and the Agreement between the United Nations and the United States of America regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations,[22] and the responsibilities of the host country,

Recognizing that effective measures should continue to be taken by the competent authorities of the host country, in particular to prevent any acts violating the security of missions and the safety of their personnel,

Noting the spirit of cooperation and mutual understanding that has guided the deliberations of the Committee on issues affecting the United Nations community and the host country,

Welcoming the increased interest shown by Member States in participating in the work of the Committee,

1. *Endorses* the recommendations and conclusions of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country contained in paragraph 67 of its report;

2. *Considers* that the maintenance of appropriate conditions for the normal work of the delegations and the missions accredited to the United Nations is in the interests of the United Nations and all Member States, and expresses the hope that the host country will continue to take all measures necessary to prevent any interference with the functioning of missions;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* for the efforts made by the host country, and hopes that problems raised at the meetings of the Committee will continue to be resolved in a spirit of cooperation and in accordance with international law;

4. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the problem of diplomatic indebtedness,[23] stresses that such indebtedness is a matter of significant concern to the United Nations and that non-payment of undisputed debts reflects badly on the entire diplomatic community and tarnishes the image of the Organization itself, reaffirms that non-compliance with contractual obligations cannot be condoned or justified, and endorses the proposals and procedures on the issue of financial indebtedness set out in annex II to the current report of the Committee;

5. *Urges* the host country to consider lifting travel controls with regard to certain missions and staff members of the Secretariat of certain nationalities, and in this regard notes the positions of the affected States, of the Secretary-General and of the host country;

6. *Calls upon* the host country to review measures and procedures relating to the parking of diplomatic vehicles, with a view to responding to the growing needs of the diplomatic community, and to consult with the Committee on these issues;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to remain actively engaged in all aspects of the relations of the United Nations with the host country;

8. *Requests* the Committee to continue its work, in conformity with General Assembly resolution 2819 (XXVI) of 15 December 1971;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session the item entitled "Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country".

87th plenary meeting
11 December 1995

50/50. United Nations Model Rules for the Conciliation of Disputes between States

The General Assembly,

Considering that conciliation is among the methods for the settlement of disputes between States enumerated by the Charter of the United Nations in Article 33, paragraph 1, that it has been provided for in numerous treaties, bilateral as well as multilateral, for the settlement of such disputes, and that it has proved its usefulness in practice,

Convinced that the establishment of model rules for the conciliation of disputes between States which incorporate the results of the most recent scholarly work and of experience in the field of international conciliation, as well as a number of innovations which can with advantage be made in the traditional practice in that area, can contribute to the development of harmonious relations between States,

1. *Commends* the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization for having completed the final text of the United Nations Model Rules for the Conciliation of Disputes between States;[24]

2. *Draws* to the attention of States the possibility of applying the Model Rules, the text of which is annexed hereto, whenever a dispute has arisen between States which it has not been possible to solve through direct negotiations;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General, to the extent possible and in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Model Rules, to lend his assistance to the States resorting to conciliation on the basis of those Rules;

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[20] Ibid., *Supplement No. 26* (A/50/26).

[21] Resolution 22 A (I).

[22] See resolution 169 (II).

[23] A/AC.154/277.

[24] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 33* (A/50/33), chap. V, sect. A.

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to make the necessary arrangements to distribute to Governments the text of the present resolution, including the annex.

87th plenary meeting
11 December 1995

ANNEX

United Nations Model Rules for the Conciliation of Disputes between States

CHAPTER I
APPLICATION OF THE RULES

Article 1

1. These rules apply to the conciliation of disputes between States where those States have expressly agreed in writing to their application.

2. The States which agree to apply these rules may at any time, through mutual agreement, exclude or amend any of their provisions.

CHAPTER II
INITIATION OF THE CONCILIATION PROCEEDINGS

Article 2

1. The conciliation proceedings shall begin as soon as the States concerned (henceforth: the parties) have agreed in writing to the application of the present rules, with or without amendments, as well as on a definition of the subject of the dispute, the number and emoluments of members of the conciliation commission, its seat and the maximum duration of the proceedings, as provided in article 24. If necessary, the agreement shall contain provisions concerning the language or languages in which the proceedings are to be conducted and the linguistic services required.

2. If the States cannot reach agreement on the definition of the subject of the dispute, they may by mutual agreement request the assistance of the Secretary-General of the United Nations to resolve the difficulty. They may also by mutual agreement request his assistance to resolve any other difficulty that they may encounter in reaching an agreement on the modalities of the conciliation proceedings.

CHAPTER III
NUMBER AND APPOINTMENT OF CONCILIATORS

Article 3

There may be three conciliators or five conciliators. In either case the conciliators shall form a commission.

Article 4

If the parties have agreed that three conciliators shall be appointed, each one of them shall appoint a conciliator, who may not be of its own nationality. The parties shall appoint by mutual agreement the third conciliator, who may not be of the nationality of any of the parties or of the other conciliators. The third conciliator shall act as president of the commission. If he is not appointed within two months of the appointment of the conciliators appointed individually by the parties, the third conciliator shall be appointed by the Government of a third State chosen by agreement between the parties or, if such agreement is not obtained within two months, by the President of the International Court of Justice. If the President is a national of one of the parties, the appointment shall be made by the Vice-President or the next member of the Court in order of seniority who is not a national of the parties. The third conciliator shall not reside habitually in the territory of the parties or be or have been in their service.

Article 5

1. If the parties have agreed that five conciliators should be appointed, each one of them shall appoint a conciliator who may be of its own nationality. The other three conciliators, one of whom shall be chosen with a view to his acting as president, shall be appointed by agreement between the parties from among nationals of third States and shall be of different nationalities. None of them shall reside habitually in the territory of the parties or be or have been in their service. None of them shall have the same nationality as that of the other two conciliators.

2. If the appointment of the conciliators whom the parties are to appoint jointly has not been effected within three months, they shall be appointed by the Government of a third State chosen by agreement between the parties or, if such an agreement is not reached within three months, by the President of the International Court of Justice. If the President is a national of one of the parties, the appointment shall be made by the Vice-President or the next judge in order of seniority who is not a national of the parties. The Government or member of the International Court of Justice making the appointment shall also decide which of the three conciliators shall act as president.

3. If, at the end of the three-month period referred to in the preceding paragraph, the parties have been able to appoint only one or two conciliators, the two conciliators or the conciliator still required shall be appointed in the manner described in the preceding paragraph. If the parties have not agreed that the conciliator or one of the two conciliators whom they have appointed shall act as president, the Government or member of the International Court of Justice appointing the two conciliators or the conciliator still required shall also decide which of the three conciliators shall act as president.

4. If, at the end of the three-month period referred to in paragraph 2 of this article, the parties have appointed three conciliators but have not been able to agree which of them shall act as president, the president shall be chosen in the manner described in that paragraph.

Article 6

Vacancies which may occur in the commission as a result of death, resignation or any other cause shall be filled as soon as possible by the method established for appointing the members to be replaced.

CHAPTER IV
FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES

Article 7

The commission, acting independently and impartially, shall endeavour to assist the parties in reaching an amicable settlement of the dispute. If no settlement is reached during the consideration of the dispute, the commission may draw up and submit appropriate recommendations to the parties for consideration.

CHAPTER V
PROCEDURES AND POWERS OF THE COMMISSION

Article 8

The commission shall adopt its own procedure.

Article 9

1. Before the commission begins its work, the parties shall designate their agents and shall communicate the names of such agents to the president of the commission. The president shall determine, in agreement with the parties, the date of the commission's first meeting, to which the members of the commission and the agents shall be invited.

2. The agents of the parties may be assisted before the commission by counsel and experts appointed by the parties.

3. Before the first meeting of the commission, its members may meet informally with the agents of the parties, if necessary, accompanied by the appointed counsel and experts to deal with administrative and procedural matters.

Article 10

1. At its first meeting, the commission shall appoint a secretary.

2. The secretary of the commission shall not have the nationality of any of the parties, shall not reside habitually in their territory and shall not be or have been in the service of any of them. He may be a United Nations official if the parties agree with the Secretary-General on the conditions under which the official will exercise these functions.

Article 11

1. As soon as the information provided by the parties so permits, the commission, having regard, in particular, to the time-limit laid down in article 24, shall decide in consultation with the parties whether the parties should be invited to submit written pleadings and, if so, in what order and within what time-limits, as well as the dates when, if necessary, the agents and counsel will be heard. The decisions

taken by the commission in this regard may be amended at any later stage of the proceedings.

2. Subject to the provisions of article 20, paragraph 1, the commission shall not allow the agent or counsel of one party to attend a meeting without having also given the other party the opportunity to be represented at the same meeting.

Article 12

The parties, acting in good faith, shall facilitate the commission's work and, in particular, shall provide it to the greatest possible extent with whatever documents, information and explanations may be relevant.

Article 13

1. The commission may ask the parties for whatever relevant information or documents, as well as explanations, it deems necessary or useful. It may also make comments on the arguments advanced as well as the statements or proposals made by the parties.

2. The commission may accede to any request by a party that persons whose testimony it considers necessary or useful be heard, or that experts be consulted.

Article 14

In cases where the parties disagree on issues of fact, the commission may use all means at its disposal, such as the joint expert advisers mentioned in article 15, or consultation with experts, to ascertain the facts.

Article 15

The commission may propose to the parties that they jointly appoint expert advisers to assist it in the consideration of technical aspects of the dispute. If the proposal is accepted, its implementation shall be conditional upon the expert advisers being appointed by the parties by mutual agreement and accepted by the commission and upon the parties fixing their emoluments.

Article 16

Each party may at any time, at its own initiative or at the initiative of the commission, make proposals for the settlement of the dispute. Any proposal made in accordance with this article shall be communicated immediately to the other party by the president, who may, in so doing, transmit any comment the commission may wish to make thereon.

Article 17

At any stage of the proceedings, the commission may, at its own initiative or at the initiative of one of the parties, draw the attention of the parties to any measures which in its opinion might be advisable or facilitate a settlement.

Article 18

The commission shall endeavour to take its decisions unanimously but, if unanimity proves impossible, it may take them by a majority of votes of its members. Abstentions are not allowed. Except in matters of procedure, the presence of all members shall be required in order for a decision to be valid.

Article 19

The commission may, at any time, ask the Secretary-General of the United Nations for advice or assistance with regard to the administrative or procedural aspects of its work.

CHAPTER VI
CONCLUSION OF THE CONCILIATION PROCEEDINGS

Article 20

1. On concluding its consideration of the dispute, the commission may, if full settlement has not been reached, draw up and submit appropriate recommendations to the parties for consideration. To that end, it may hold an exchange of views with the agents of the parties, who may be heard jointly or separately.

2. The recommendations adopted by the commission shall be set forth in a report communicated by the president of the commission to the agents of the parties, with a request that the agents inform the commission, within a given period, whether the parties accept them. The president may include in the report the reasons which, in the commission's view, might prompt the parties to accept the recommendations submitted. The commission shall refrain from presenting in its report any final conclusions with regard to facts or from ruling formally on issues of law, unless the parties have jointly asked it to do so.

3. If the parties accept the recommendations submitted by the commission, a procès-verbal shall be drawn up setting forth the conditions of acceptance. The procès-verbal shall be signed by the president and the secretary. A copy thereof signed by the secretary shall be provided to each party. This shall conclude the proceedings.

4. Should the commission decide not to submit recommendations to the parties, its decision to that effect shall be recorded in a procès-verbal signed by the president and the secretary. A copy thereof signed by the secretary shall be provided to each party. This shall conclude the proceedings.

Article 21

1. The recommendations of the commission will be submitted to the parties for consideration in order to facilitate an amicable settlement of the dispute. The parties undertake to study them in good faith, carefully and objectively.

2. If one of the parties does not accept the recommendations and the other party does, it shall inform the latter, in writing, of the reasons why it could not accept them.

Article 22

1. If the recommendations are not accepted by both parties but the latter wish efforts to continue in order to reach agreement on different terms, the proceedings shall be resumed. Article 24 shall apply to the resumed proceedings, with the relevant time-limit, which the parties may, by mutual agreement, shorten or extend, running from the commission's first meeting after resumption of the proceedings.

2. If the recommendations are not accepted by both parties and the latter do not wish further efforts to be made to reach agreement on different terms, a procès-verbal signed by the president and the secretary of the commission shall be drawn up, omitting the proposed terms and indicating that the parties were unable to accept them and do not wish further efforts to be made to reach agreement on different terms. The proceedings shall be concluded when each party has received a copy of the procès-verbal signed by the secretary.

Article 23

Upon conclusion of the proceedings, the president of the commission shall, with the prior agreement of the parties, deliver the documents in the possession of the secretariat of the commission either to the Secretary-General of the United Nations or to another person or entity agreed upon by the parties. Without prejudice to the possible application of article 26, paragraph 2, the confidentiality of the documents shall be preserved.

Article 24

The commission shall conclude its work within the period agreed upon by the parties. Any extension of this period shall be agreed upon by the parties.

CHAPTER VII
CONFIDENTIALITY OF THE COMMISSION'S WORK AND DOCUMENTS

Article 25

1. The commission's meetings shall be closed. The parties and the members and expert advisers of the commission, the agents and counsel of the parties, and the secretary and the secretariat staff, shall maintain strictly the confidentiality of any documents or statements, or any communication concerning the progress of the proceedings unless their disclosure has been approved by both parties in advance.

2. Each party shall receive, through the secretary, certified copies of any minutes of the meetings at which it was represented.

3. Each party shall receive, through the secretary, certified copies of any documentary evidence received and of experts' reports, records of investigations and statements by witnesses.

Article 26

1. Except with regard to certified copies referred to in article 25, paragraph 3, the obligation to respect the confidentiality of the pro-

ceedings and of the deliberations shall remain in effect for the parties and for members of the commission, expert advisers and secretariat staff after the proceedings are concluded and shall extend to recommendations and proposals which have not been accepted.

2. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the parties may, upon conclusion of the proceedings and by mutual agreement, make available to the public all or some of the documents that in accordance with the preceding paragraph are to remain confidential, or authorize the publication of all or some of those documents.

CHAPTER VIII
OBLIGATION NOT TO ACT IN A MANNER WHICH MIGHT HAVE AN ADVERSE EFFECT ON THE CONCILIATION

Article 27

The parties shall refrain during the conciliation proceedings from any measure which might aggravate or widen the dispute. They shall, in particular, refrain from any measures which might have an adverse effect on the recommendations submitted by the commission, so long as those recommendations have not been explicitly rejected by either of the parties.

CHAPTER IX
PRESERVATION OF THE LEGAL POSITION OF THE PARTIES

Article 28

1. Except as the parties may otherwise agree, neither party shall be entitled in any other proceedings, whether in a court of law or before arbitrators or before any other body, entity or person, to invoke any views expressed or statements, admissions or proposals made by the other party in the conciliation proceedings, but not accepted, or the report of the commission, the recommendations submitted by the commission or any proposal made by the commission, unless agreed to by both parties.

2. Acceptance by a party of recommendations submitted by the commission in no way implies any admission by it of the considerations of law or of fact which may have inspired the recommendations.

CHAPTER X
COSTS

Article 29

The costs of the conciliation proceedings and the emoluments of expert advisers appointed in accordance with article 15 shall be borne by the parties in equal shares.

50/51. Implementation of provisions of the Charter of the United Nations related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions

The General Assembly,

Concerned with the special economic problems confronting certain States arising from the carrying out of preventive or enforcement measures taken by the Security Council against other States, and taking into account the obligation of Members of the United Nations under Article 49 of the Charter of the United Nations to join in affording mutual assistance in carrying out the measures decided upon by the Security Council,

Recalling the right of third States confronted with special economic problems of that nature to consult the Security Council with regard to a solution to those problems, in accordance with Article 50 of the Charter,

Recalling also the 1994[25] and 1995[26] reports of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization containing sections on the consideration by the Committee of the proposals presented on the question of the implementation of the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions under Chapter VII of the Charter,

Recalling further:

(*a*) The report of the Secretary-General, entitled "An Agenda for Peace",[27] in particular paragraph 41 thereof;

(*b*) Its resolutions 47/120 A of 18 December 1992, entitled "An Agenda for Peace: preventive diplomacy and related matters", and 47/120 B of 20 September 1993, entitled "An Agenda for Peace", in particular section IV thereof, entitled "Special economic problems arising from the implementation of preventive or enforcement measures";

(*c*) The position paper of the Secretary-General, entitled "Supplement to An Agenda for Peace";[28]

(*d*) The statement of the President of the Security Council of 22 February 1995;[29]

(*e*) The report of the Secretary-General prepared pursuant to the note by the President of the Security Council[30] regarding the question of special economic problems of States as a result of sanctions imposed under Chapter VII of the Charter;[31]

(*f*) The reports of the Secretary-General on "Economic assistance to States affected by the implementation of the Security Council resolutions imposing sanctions against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro)",[32]

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the provisions of the Charter related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions under Chapter VII of the Charter,[33]

Recalling that the question of assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions has been addressed recently in several forums, including the General Assembly and its subsidiary organs and the Security Council,

Recalling also the Security Council's intention expressed in the statement of the President of the Security Council of 16 December 1994[34] as part of the Council's effort to improve the flow of information and the exchange of ideas between members of the Council and other States Members of the United Nations that there should be increased recourse to open meetings, in particular at an early stage in its consideration of a subject,

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[25] Ibid., *Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 33* (A/49/33).

[26] Ibid., *Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 33* (A/50/33).

[27] A/47/277-S/24111; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-seventh Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1992*, document S/24111.

[28] A/50/60-S/1995/1; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fiftieth Year, Supplement for January, February and March 1995*, document S/1995/1.

[29] See *Official Records of the Security Council, Fiftieth Year, Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1995*, document S/PRST/1995/9.

[30] Ibid., *Forty-seventh Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1992*, document S/25036.

[31] A/48/573-S/26705; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-eighth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1993*, document S/26705.

[32] A/49/356 and A/50/423.

[33] A/50/361.

[34] See *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-ninth Year, Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1994*, S/PRST/1994/81.

Stressing that in the formulation of sanctions regimes, due account should be taken of the potential effects of sanctions on third States,

Stressing also in this context the powers of the Security Council under Chapter VII of the Charter and the Council's principal responsibility under Article 24 of the Charter for the maintenance of international peace and security in order to ensure prompt and effective action by the United Nations,

Recalling further that, under Article 31 of the Charter, any Member of the United Nations which is not a member of the Security Council may participate, without vote, in the discussion of any question brought before the Security Council whenever the latter considers that the interests of that Member are specially affected,

Recognizing that assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions would further contribute to an effective and comprehensive approach by the international community to mandatory sanctions imposed by the Security Council,

Recognizing also the importance of taking into account in international mechanisms of cooperation and of economic and financial assistance special economic problems of States arising from the implementation of sanctions imposed under Chapter VII of the Charter,

1. *Underlines* the importance of consultations under Article 50 of the Charter of the United Nations, as early as possible, with third States which may be confronted with special economic problems arising from the carrying out of preventive or enforcement measures imposed by the Security Council under Chapter VII of the Charter and of early and regular assessments, as appropriate, of their impact on such States, and, for this purpose, invites the Security Council to consider appropriate ways and means for increasing the effectiveness of its working methods and procedures applied in the consideration of the requests by the affected countries for assistance, in the context of Article 50;

2. *Welcomes* the measures taken by the Security Council aimed at increasing the effectiveness and transparency of the sanctions committees, and strongly recommends that the Council continue its efforts further to enhance the functioning of those committees, to streamline their working procedures and to facilitate access to them by representatives of States which find themselves confronted with special economic problems arising from the carrying out of sanctions;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General, within existing resources, to ensure that the Security Council and its sanctions committees are able to carry out their work expeditiously, and to make appropriate arrangements in the relevant parts of the Secretariat, in order to carry out, in a coordinated way, the following functions:

(*a*) To collate, assess and analyse information, at the request of the Security Council and its organs, on the effects of sanctions regimes in third States which are or may be specially affected by the implementations of sanctions and the resulting needs of such States, and keep the Security Council and its organs informed;

(*b*) To provide advice to the Security Council and its organs at their request on specific needs or problems of those third States and present possible options so that, while maintaining the effectiveness of the sanctions regimes, appropriate adjustments may be made to the administration of the regime or the regime itself with a view to mitigating the adverse effects on such States;

(*c*) To collate and coordinate information about international assistance available to third States affected by the implementations of sanctions and to make it officially available to the interested member States;

(*d*) To explore innovative and practical measures of assistance to the affected third States through cooperation with relevant institutions and organizations inside and outside the United Nations system;

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly, at its fifty-first session, on the implementation of paragraph 3 above and on possible guidelines which might be adopted on technical procedures to be used by the appropriate parts of the Secretariat:

(*a*) For providing better information and early assessments for the Security Council and its organs about the actual or potential effects of sanctions on third States which invoke Article 50 of the Charter;

(*b*) For developing a possible methodology for assessing the consequences actually incurred by third States as a result of the implementation of preventive or enforcement measures;

(*c*) For coordination of information about international economic or other assistance potentially available to those third States;

5. *Stresses* the important role of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Committee for Programme and Coordination in mobilizing and monitoring, as appropriate, the economic assistance efforts by the international community and the United Nations system to States confronted with special economic problems arising from the carrying out of preventive or enforcement measures imposed by the Security Council;

6. *Invites* the organizations of the United Nations system, international financial institutions, other international organizations, regional organizations and Member States to continue to take into account and to address more specifically and directly, where appropriate, special economic problems of third States affected by sanctions imposed under Chapter VII of the Charter and, for this purpose, to consider ways and means for improving procedures for consultations in order to maintain a constructive dialogue with such States, including through regular and frequent meetings as well as, where appropriate, special meetings between the affected third States and the donor community, with the participation of United Nations agencies and other international organizations;

7. *Requests* the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization, at its session in 1996, to continue to consider on a priority basis the question of the implementation of the provisions of the Charter related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions under Chapter VII of the Charter taking into consideration the report of the Secretary-General,[33] the proposals presented on this subject, the debate on this question which took place in the Sixth Committee at the fiftieth session of the General Assembly and, in particular, the implementation of the provisions of the present resolution.

87th plenary meeting
11 December 1995

50/52. Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 3499 (XXX) of 15 December 1975, by which it established the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization, and its relevant resolutions adopted at subsequent sessions,

Recalling also its resolution 47/233 of 17 August 1993 on the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly,

Recalling further its resolution 47/62 of 11 December 1992 on the question of equitable representation on and increase in the membership of the Security Council,

Bearing in mind the provisions of its resolution 50/55 of 11 December 1995,

Conscious of the ongoing discussion in the open-ended working groups of the General Assembly dealing with the various aspects of the revitalization, strengthening and reform of the work of the United Nations,

Welcoming the report of the Open-ended Working Group on the Question of Equitable Representation on and Increase in the Membership of the Security Council and Other Matters Related to the Security Council,[35]

Bearing in mind the reports of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization submitted to the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh,[36] thirty-ninth,[37] fortieth,[38] forty-first,[39] forty-second,[40] forty-third,[41] forty-fourth,[42] forty-fifth,[43] forty-sixth,[44] forty-seventh,[45] forty-eighth,[46] forty-ninth[47] and fiftieth[48] sessions, as well as the views and comments expressed on them by Member States,

Recalling the elements relevant to the work of the Special Committee contained in its resolution 47/120 B of 20 September 1993,

Mindful of the desirability for the Special Committee to carry out further work in the fields of the maintenance of international peace and security and the peaceful settlement of disputes between States,

Recalling its resolution 49/58 of 9 December 1994,

Having considered the report of the Special Committee on the work of its session held in 1995,[49]

Taking note of the recommendation of the Special Committee on the most appropriate legal action to be taken on the question of the deletion of the "enemy State" clauses from Articles 53, 77 and 107 of the Charter of the United Nations,[50]

Recognizing that, having regard to the substantial changes that have taken place in the world, the "enemy State" clauses in Articles 53, 77 and 107 of the Charter have become obsolete,

Noting that the States to which those clauses were directed are Members of the United Nations and represent a valuable asset in all the endeavours of the Organization,

Taking into account the complex process involved in amending the Charter,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization;[49]

2. *Decides* that the Special Committee will hold its next session from 21 February to 5 March 1996;

3. *Expresses its intention* to initiate the procedure set out in Article 108 of the Charter of the United Nations to amend the Charter, with prospective effect, by the deletion of the "enemy State" clauses from Articles 53, 77 and 107 at its earliest appropriate future session;

4. *Requests* the Special Committee, at its session in 1996, in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 5 below:

(*a*) To accord appropriate time for the consideration of all proposals concerning the question of the maintenance of international peace and security in all its aspects in order to strengthen the role of the United Nations and, in this context, to consider other proposals relating to the maintenance of international peace and security already submitted or which might be submitted to the Special Committee at its session in 1996, including the proposal on the strengthening of the role of the Organization and enhancing its effectiveness and the revised proposal submitted with a view to enhancing the effectiveness of the Security Council in regard to the maintenance of international peace and security, and to consider recommending to the General Assembly the desired priorities for its further consideration;

(*b*) To continue to consider on a priority basis the question of the implementation of the provisions of the Charter related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions under Chapter VII of the Charter, taking into consideration the report of the Secretary-General,[33] the proposals presented on this subject, the debate on this question which took place in the Sixth Committee at the fiftieth session of the General Assembly and, in particular, the implementation of the provisions of its resolution 50/51 of 11 December 1995;

(*c*) To continue its work on the question of the peaceful settlement of disputes between States, and in this context to continue its consideration of proposals relating to the peaceful settlement of disputes between States, including the proposal on the establishment of a dispute settlement service offering or responding with its services early in disputes and those proposals relating to the enhancement of the role of the International Court of Justice;

(*d*) To continue its consideration of the question of the enhancement of cooperation between the United Nations and regional arrangements or agencies in the maintenance of international peace and security;

(*e*) To consider proposals concerning the Trusteeship Council;

(*f*) To consider the status[51] of the *Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs* and the *Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council*;

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[35] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 47* (A/49/47).

[36] Ibid., *Thirty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 1* (A/37/1).

[37] Ibid., *Thirty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 1* (A/39/1).

[38] Ibid., *Fortieth Session, Supplement No. 1* (A/40/1).

[39] Ibid., *Forty-first Session, Supplement No. 1* (A/41/1).

[40] Ibid., *Forty-second Session, Supplement No. 1* (A/42/1).

[41] Ibid., *Forty-third Session, Supplement No. 1* (A/43/1).

[42] Ibid., *Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 1* (A/44/1).

[43] Ibid., *Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 1* (A/45/1).

[44] Ibid., *Forty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 1* (A/46/1).

[45] Ibid., *Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 1* (A/47/1).

[46] Ibid., *Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 1* (A/48/1).

[47] Ibid., *Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 1* (A/49/1).

[48] Ibid., *Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 1* (A/50/1).

[49] Ibid., *Supplement No. 33* (A/50/33).

[50] Ibid., para. 65.

[51] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Sixth Committee*, 44th meeting, and corrigendum.

5. *Decides* that the Special Committee shall henceforth be open to all States Members of the United Nations and that it will continue to operate on the basis of the practice of consensus;

6. *Decides also* that the Special Committee shall be authorized to accept the participation of observers of States other than States Members of the United Nations which are members of specialized agencies or of the International Atomic Energy Agency in its meetings, and further decides to invite intergovernmental organizations to participate in the debate in the plenary meetings of the Committee on specific items when it considers that such participation would assist in the work;

7. *Invites* the Special Committee at its session in 1996 to identify new subjects for consideration in its future work with a view to contributing to the revitalization of the work of the United Nations, and to discuss how to offer its assistance to the working groups of the General Assembly in this field;

8. *Requests* the Special Committee to submit a report on its work to the General Assembly at the fifty-first session;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session the item entitled "Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization".

87th plenary meeting
11 December 1995

50/53. Measures to eliminate international terrorism

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 49/60 of 9 December 1994, by which it adopted the Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism,

Recalling also that, in the statement issued on 31 January 1992 by the President of the Security Council on the occasion of the meeting of the Security Council at the level of heads of State and Government,[52] the members of the Council expressed their deep concern over acts of international terrorism, and emphasized the need for the international community to deal effectively with all such acts,

Recalling further the Declaration on the Occasion of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the United Nations,[53]

Deeply disturbed by the persistence of terrorist acts, which have taken place worldwide,

Stressing the need further to strengthen international cooperation between States and between international organizations and agencies, regional organizations and arrangements and the United Nations in order to prevent, combat and eliminate terrorism in all its forms and manifestations,

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General of 24 August 1995,[54]

1. *Strongly condemns* all acts, methods and practices of terrorism as criminal and unjustifiable;

2. *Reiterates* that criminal acts intended or calculated to provoke a state of terror in the general public, a group of persons or particular persons for political purposes are in any circumstance unjustifiable, whatever the considerations of a political, philosophical, ideological, racial, ethnic, religious or any other nature that may be invoked to justify them;[55]

3. *Reaffirms* the Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism annexed to resolution 49/60;

4. *Urges* all States to promote and implement effectively and in good faith the provisions of the Declaration in all its aspects;

5. *Also urges* all States to strengthen cooperation with one another to ensure that those who participate in terrorist activities, whatever the nature of their participation, find no safe haven anywhere;

6. *Calls upon* all States to take the necessary steps to implement their obligations under existing international conventions, to observe fully the principles of international law and to contribute to the further development of international law on this matter;

7. *Recalls* the role of the Security Council in combating international terrorism whenever it poses a threat to international peace and security;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to follow up closely the implementation of the Declaration and to submit an annual report on the implementation of paragraph 10 of the Declaration, taking into account the modalities set out in his report[54] and the views expressed by States in the debate of the Sixth Committee during the fiftieth session of the General Assembly;[56]

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session the item entitled "Measures to eliminate international terrorism".

87th plenary meeting
11 December 1995

50/54. Review of the procedure provided for under article 11 of the statute of the Administrative Tribunal of the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[57]

Noting that the procedure provided for under article 11 of the statute of the Administrative Tribunal of the United Nations has not proved to be a constructive or useful element in the adjudication of staff disputes within the Organization, and noting also the views of the Secretary-General to that effect,

1. *Decides* to amend the statute of the Administrative Tribunal of the United Nations with respect to judgements rendered by the Tribunal after 31 December 1995 as follows:

(*a*) Delete article 11;

(*b*) Renumber former articles 12, 13 and 14 as articles 11, 12 and 13, respectively, and in paragraph 3 of article 9 substitute the words "article 13" for "article 14";

(*c*) Amend paragraph 2 of article 10 by substituting the words "article 11" for "articles 11 and 12";

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[52] *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-seventh Year, Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1992*, p.65, document S/23500.

[53] Resolution 50/6.

[54] A/50/372 and Add.1.

[55] See resolution 49/60, annex, para. 3.

[56] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Sixth Committee*, 6th to 10th and 46th meetings, and corrigendum.

[57] A/C.6/49/2.

2. *Decides also* that, with respect to judgements rendered by the Tribunal before 1 January 1996, the statute of the Tribunal shall continue to apply as if the amendments in paragraph 1 above had not been made;

3. *Stresses* the importance for the staff and the Organization alike of ensuring a fair, efficient and expeditious internal system of justice within the United Nations, including effective mechanisms for the resolution of disputes.

87th plenary meeting
11 December 1995

50/55. Review of the role of the Trusteeship Council

The General Assembly,

Noting the proposal made by Malta on the review of the role of the Trusteeship Council,[58] other proposals made and different views expressed by Member States at the fiftieth session of the General Assembly on decisions relative to the future of the Trusteeship Council and the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization,[59]

Noting also that the General Assembly's Open-ended High-level Working Group on the Strengthening of the United Nations System will be undertaking a thorough review of studies and reports of the relevant United Nations bodies and submissions of Member States and observers, as well as studies and reports of independent commissions, non-governmental organizations, institutions, scholars and other experts on subjects relating to the revitalization, strengthening and reform of the United Nations system,

Noting further the role of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to invite Member States to submit, not later than 31 May 1996, written comments on the future of the Trusteeship Council;

2. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, as early as possible and before the end of its fiftieth session, for appropriate consideration, a report containing comments made by Member States on the subject.

87th plenary meeting
11 December 1995

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[58] A/50/142.

[59] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 1* (A/49/1).

IX. DECISIONS

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A. ELECTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

50/301. Appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee

At its 1st plenary meeting, on 19 September 1995, the General Assembly, in accordance with rule 28 of its rules of procedure, appointed a Credentials Committee for its fiftieth session consisting of the following Member States: CHINA, LUXEMBOURG, MALI, MARSHALL ISLANDS, RUSSIAN FEDERATION, SOUTH AFRICA, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA and VENEZUELA.

50/302. Election of the President of the General Assembly[1]

At its 1st plenary meeting, on 19 September 1995, the General Assembly, in accordance with Article 21 of the Charter of the United Nations and rule 31 of the rules of procedure of the Assembly, elected Mr. Diogo FREITAS do AMARAL (Portugal) President of the General Assembly.

50/303. Election of the Chairmen of the Main Committees[1]

On 19 September 1995, the six Main Committees of the General Assembly held meetings, in accordance with rule 103 of the rules of procedure of the Assembly, for the purpose of electing their Chairmen.

At the 2nd plenary meeting, on 19 September 1995, the President of the General Assembly announced that the following persons had been elected Chairmen of the Main Committees:

First Committee: Mr. Luvsangiin ERDENECHULUUN (Mongolia)

Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee): Mr. Francis MUTHAURA (Kenya)

Second Committee: Mr. Goce PETRESKI (The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia)

Third Committee: Mr. Ugyen TSHERING (Bhutan)

Fifth Committee: Mr. Erich VILCHEZ ASHER (Nicaragua)

Sixth Committee: Mr. Tyge LEHMANN (Denmark)

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[1] In accordance with rule 38 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the General Committee consists of the President of the Assembly, the 21 Vice-Presidents and the Chairmen of the six Main Committees.

50/304. Election of the Vice-Presidents of the General Assembly[1]

At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 19 September 1995, the General Assembly, in accordance with paragraphs 2 and 3 of the annex to its resolution 33/138 of 19 December 1978, elected the representatives of the following twenty-one Member States Vice-Presidents of the General Assembly: Albania, Algeria, Belgium, Bolivia, China, Congo, Costa Rica, France, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Namibia, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Thailand, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Yemen.

50/305. Election of seven members of the Committee for Programme and Coordination

At its 45th plenary meeting, on 31 October 1995, the General Assembly, on the basis of the nominations by the Economic and Social Council[2] and in accordance with the annex to Council resolution 2008 (LX) of 14 May 1976 and paragraph 1 of Council resolution 1987/94 of 4 December 1987, elected China, Egypt, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Togo, Uruguay and Zaire members of the Committee for Programme and Coordination for a three-year term of office beginning on 1 January 1996 to fill the vacancies occurring on the expiration of the terms of office of China, Egypt, Japan, Kenya, Nicaragua, the Republic of Korea and Togo.

As a result, the Committee for Programme and Coordination is composed of the following thirty-four Member States: Argentina,* Bahamas,** Belarus,* Benin,** Brazil,* Cameroon,* Canada,* China,*** Comoros,* Congo,* Cuba,* Egypt,*** France,** Germany,* Ghana,** India,* Indonesia,* Iran (Islamic Republic of),* Japan,*** Mexico,** Netherlands,* Norway,* Pakistan,* Republic of Korea,*** Romania,* Russian Federation,** Senegal,* Togo,*** Trinidad and Tobago,* Ukraine,* United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland,* United States of America,** Uruguay*** and Zaire.***

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*Term of office expires on 31 December 1996.
**Term of office expires on 31 December 1997.
***Term of office expires on 31 December 1998.

[2] See Economic and Social Council decision 1995/221 of 4 May 1995; see also A/50/209.

50/306. Election of five non-permanent members of the Security Council

At its 53rd plenary meeting, on 8 November 1995, the General Assembly, in accordance with Article 23 of the Charter of the United Nations and rule 142 of the rules of procedure of the Assembly, elected Chile, Egypt, Guinea-Bissau, Poland and the Republic of Korea non-permanent members of the Security Council for a two-year term of office beginning on 1 January 1996 to fill the vacancies occurring on the expiration of the terms of office of Argentina, the Czech Republic, Nigeria, Oman and Rwanda.

As a result, the Security Council is composed of the following fifteen Member States: Botswana,* Chile,** China, Egypt,** France, Germany,* Guinea-Bissau,** Honduras,* Indonesia,* Italy,* Poland,** Russian Federation, Republic of Korea,** United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

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*Term of office expires on 31 December 1996.
**Term of office expires on 31 December 1997.

50/307. Election of eighteen members of the Economic and Social Council

At its 62nd and 63rd plenary meetings, on 16 November 1995, the General Assembly, in accordance with Article 61 of the Charter of the United Nations and rule 145 of the rules of procedure of the Assembly, elected Argentina, Bangladesh, Canada, the Central African Republic, China, the Czech Republic, Finland, Gabon, Guyana, Jordan, Lebanon, Nicaragua, Romania, the Russian Federation, Sweden, Togo, Tunisia and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland members of the Economic and Social Council for a three-year term of office beginning on 1 January 1996 to fill the vacancies occurring on the expiration of the terms of office of the Bahamas, Bhutan, Canada, China, Cuba, Denmark, Gabon, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mexico, Nigeria, Norway, the Republic of Korea, Romania, the Russian Federation, Sri Lanka, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Zaire.

As a result, the Economic and Social Council is composed of the following fifty-four Member States: Argentina,*** Australia,** Bangladesh,*** Belarus,** Brazil,** Bulgaria,* Canada,*** Central African Republic,*** Chile,* China,*** Colombia,** Congo,** Costa Rica,* Côte d'Ivoire,** Czech Republic,*** Egypt,* Finland,*** France,* Gabon,*** Germany,* Ghana,* Greece,* Guyana,*** India,** Indonesia,* Ireland,* Jamaica,** Japan,* Jordan,*** Lebanon,*** Luxembourg,** Malaysia,** Netherlands,** Nicaragua,*** Pakistan,* Paraguay,* Philippines,** Poland,** Portugal,* Romania,*** Russian Federation,*** Senegal,* South Africa,** Sudan,** Sweden,*** Thailand,** Togo,*** Tunisia,*** Uganda,** United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland,*** United Republic of Tanzania,* United States of America,** Venezuela* and Zimbabwe.*

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*Term of office expires on 31 December 1996.
**Term of office expires on 31 December 1997.
***Term of office expires on 31 December 1998.

50/308. Election of twenty-nine members of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme

At its 68th plenary meeting, on 21 November 1995, the General Assembly, pursuant to its decision 43/406 of 24 October 1988, elected Algeria, Australia, Benin, Burkina Faso, the Central African Republic, Chile, Colombia, the Czech Republic, Finland, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Italy, Kenya, the Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Morocco, the Netherlands, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Samoa, Slovakia, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland members of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme for a four-year term of office beginning on 1 January 1996 to fill the vacancies occurring on the expiration of the terms of office of Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Botswana, Cameroon, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Denmark, Guyana, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Italy, Kenya, Malaysia, Mexico, the Netherlands, Nigeria, Pakistan, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Rwanda, Senegal, Slovakia, Sri Lanka, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uruguay.

As a result, the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme is composed of the following fifty-eight States: Algeria,** Argentina,* Australia,** Benin,** Brazil,* Bulgaria,* Burkina Faso,** Burundi,* Canada,* Central African Republic,** Chile,** China,* Colombia,** Costa Rica,* Czech Republic,** Democratic People's Republic of Korea,* Finland,** France,* Gabon,* Gambia,* Germany,* Guinea-Bissau,* Hungary,* India,** Indonesia,* Iran (Islamic Republic of),** Italy,** Japan,* Kenya,** Marshall Islands,** Mauritania,** Mexico,** Morocco,** Nicaragua,* Netherlands,** Pakistan,** Panama,** Peru,** Philippines,** Poland,** Republic of Korea,* Russian Federation,* Samoa,** Slovakia,** Spain,* Sudan,* Sweden,* Switzerland,* Syrian Arab Republic,* Thailand,** Tunisia,** Turkey,** United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland,** United States of America,* Venezuela,* Zaire,* Zambia* and Zimbabwe.*

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*Term of office expires on 31 December 1997.
**Term of office expires on 31 December 1999.

50/309. Election of twelve members of the World Food Council

At its 68th plenary meeting, on 21 November 1995, the General Assembly, on the basis of the nominations by the Economic and Social Council[3] and in accordance with paragraph 8 of its resolution 3348 (XXIX) of 17 December 1974, elected Algeria, Hungary, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Japan, Mali and Togo members of the World Food Council for a three-year term of office beginning on 1 January 1996 to fill the vacancies occurring on the expiration of the terms of office of Ecuador, France, Guinea-Bissau, Hungary, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Italy, Japan, Nigeria, Norway, Peru and Tunisia.

At the same meeting, the General Assembly decided to hold elections for the remaining five seats for the fiftieth session, two seats for the forty-ninth session and two seats for the forty-eighth session at a later date.

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[3] Ibid., see also A/50/208.

As a result, the World Food Council is composed of the following twenty-seven Member States: ALBANIA,** ALGERIA,*** ANGOLA,** BANGLADESH,* BRAZIL,* CHINA,* COLOMBIA,** DOMINICAN REPUBLIC,** HUNGARY,*** HONDURAS,** INDIA,*** IRAN (ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF),*** INDONESIA,** JAPAN,*** KENYA,** LIBERIA,* MALAWI,* MALI,*** MARSHALL ISLANDS,** MEXICO,* PAKISTAN,* RUSSIAN FEDERATION,** SUDAN,* TOGO,*** TURKEY,* UGANDA** and UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.*

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*Term of office expires on 31 December 1996.

**Term of office expires on 31 December 1997.

***Term of office expires on 31 December 1998.

50/310. Appointment of members of the Committee on Conferences

A

At its 68th plenary meeting, on 21 November 1995, the General Assembly, in accordance with paragraph 2 of its resolution 43/222 B of 21 December 1988, took note of the appointment by its President, after consultations with the chairmen of the regional groups, of AUSTRIA, JAMAICA, JORDAN, MOROCCO and THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA as members of the Committee on Conferences for a three-year term of office beginning on 1 January 1996 to fill the vacancies occurring on the expiration of the terms of office of AUSTRIA, FIJI, GRENADA, JORDAN, MOROCCO, THE NIGER and THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

At the same meeting, the General Assembly decided to retain sub-item (f) of agenda item 17 on the agenda of its fiftieth session for the appointment, at a later date, of members to the two seats remaining to be filled on the Committee on Conferences.

B

At its 78th plenary meeting, on 4 December 1995, the General Assembly took note of the appointment by its President, following further consultations with the relevant regional groups, of KENYA and NEPAL as members of the Committee on Conferences for a term of office expiring on 31 December 1998.

As a result, the Committee on Conferences is composed of the following twenty-one Member States: AUSTRIA,*** BAHAMAS,** BELGIUM,** CHILE,* EGYPT,* FRANCE,* GABON,* GHANA,** IRAN (ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF),** JAMAICA,*** JAPAN,* JORDAN,*** KENYA,*** LATVIA,** MOROCCO,*** NEPAL,*** PAKISTAN,* RUSSIAN FEDERATION,* SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES,** SENEGAL** and UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.***

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*Term of office expires on 31 December 1996.

**Term of office expires on 31 December 1997.

***Term of office expires on 31 December 1998.

50/311. Appointment of a member of the Committee on Information[4]

At its 82nd plenary meeting, on 6 December 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee),[5] appointed the DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA as a member of the Committee on Information.

As a result, the Committee on Information is composed of the following eighty-nine Member States: ALGERIA, ARGENTINA, BANGLADESH, BELARUS, BELGIUM, BELIZE, BENIN, BRAZIL, BULGARIA, BURKINA FASO, BURUNDI, CHILE, CHINA, COLOMBIA, CONGO, COSTA RICA, CÔTE D'IVOIRE, CROATIA, CUBA, CYPRUS, CZECH REPUBLIC, DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA, DENMARK, ECUADOR, EGYPT, EL SALVADOR, ETHIOPIA, FINLAND, FRANCE, GABON, GERMANY, GHANA, GREECE, GUATEMALA, GUINEA, GUYANA, HUNGARY, INDIA, INDONESIA, IRAN (ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF), IRELAND, ISRAEL, ITALY, JAMAICA, JAPAN, JORDAN, KAZAKSTAN, KENYA, LEBANON, MALTA, MEXICO, MONGOLIA, MOROCCO, NEPAL, NETHERLANDS, NIGER, NIGERIA, PAKISTAN, PERU, PHILIPPINES, POLAND, PORTUGAL, REPUBLIC OF KOREA, ROMANIA, RUSSIAN FEDERATION, SENEGAL, SINGAPORE, SLOVAKIA, SOMALIA, SOUTH AFRICA,

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[4] See also decision 50/411.

[5] A/50/608, para. 9.

Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire and Zimbabwe.

50/312. Appointment of twenty-five members of the Advisory Committee on the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law

At its 87th plenary meeting, on 11 December 1995, the General Assembly appointed Canada, Colombia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Ethiopia, France, Germany, Ghana, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Italy, Jamaica, Kenya, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mexico, Nigeria, Pakistan, Portugal, the Russian Federation, the Sudan, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukraine, the United Republic of Tanzania, the United States of America and Uruguay as members of the Advisory Committee on the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law for a period of four years beginning on 1 January 1996.

50/313. Appointment of members of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

At its 94th plenary meeting, on 18 December 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Fifth Committee,[6] appointed the following persons as members of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions for a three-year term of office beginning on 1 January 1996: Mr. Vijay Gokhale, Mr. Yuji Kumamaru, Mr. José Antônio Marcondes de Carvalho, Mr. Wolfgang Stöckl, Mr. Tang Guangting and Mr. Giovanni Luigi Valenza.

As a result, the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions is composed as follows: Mr. Ahmad Fathi Al-Masri (*Syrian Arab Republic*),** Mr. Ioan Barac (*Romania*),** Mr. Leonid Efimovich Bidnyi (*Russian Federation*),* Mr. Simon Khoam Chuinkam (*Cameroon*),* Mrs. Inga Eriksson Fogh (*Sweden*),* Ms. Norma Goicochea Estenoz (*Cuba*),* Mr. Vijay Gokhale (*India*),*** Mr. Yuji Kumamaru (*Japan*),*** Mr. Mahamane Maiga (*Mali*),** Mr. José Antônio Marcondes de Carvalho (*Brazil*),*** Mr. E. Besley Maycock (*Barbados*),** Mr. C. S. M. Mselle (*United Republic of Tanzania*),** Ms. Linda S. Shenwick (*United States of America*),* Mr. Wolfgang Stöckl (*Germany*),*** Mr. Tang Guangting (*China*)*** and Mr. Giovanni Luigi Valenza (*Italy*).***

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*Term of office expires on 31 December 1996.

**Term of office expires on 31 December 1997.

***Term of office expires on 31 December 1998.

[6] A/50/774, para. 11.

50/314. Appointment of members of the Committee on Contributions

At its 94th plenary meeting, on 18 December 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Fifth Committee,[7] appointed the following persons as members of the Committee on Contributions for a three-year term of office beginning on 1 January 1996: Mr. Pieter Johannes Bierma, Mr. Sergio Chaparro Ruiz, Mr. Neil Hewitt Francis, Mr. Atilio Norberto Molteni, Mr. Mohamed Mahmoud Ould El Ghaouth, and Mr. Omar Sirry.

As a result, the Committee on Contributions is composed as follows: Mr. Pieter Johannes Bierma (*Netherlands*),*** Mr. Uldis Blukis (*Latvia*),** Mr. Sergio Chaparro Ruiz (*Chile*),*** Mr. Yuri A. Chulkov (*Russian Federation*),* Mr. David Etuket (*Uganda*),** Mr. Neil Hewitt Francis (*Australia*),*** Mr. Igor V. Goumenny (*Ukraine*),** Mr. William Grant (*United States of America*),** Mr. Alvador Gurgel de Alencar (*Brazil*),* Mr. Masao Kawai (*Japan*),** Mr. Li Yong (*China*),* Mr. Vanu Gopala Menon (*Singapore*),** Mr. Atilio Norberto Molteni (*Argentina*),*** Mr. Mohamed Mahmoud Ould El Ghaouth (*Mauritania*),*** Mr. Ugo Sessi (*Italy*),* Mr. Agha Shahi (*Pakistan*),* Mr. Omar Sirry (*Egypt*)*** and Mr. Adrian Teirlinck (*Belgium*).*

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*Term of office expires on 31 December 1996.

**Term of office expires on 31 December 1997.

***Term of office expires on 31 December 1998.

[7] A/50/775, para. 9.

50/315. Appointment of a member of the Board of Auditors

At its 94th plenary meeting, on 18 December 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Fifth Committee,[8] appointed the Comptroller and Auditor-General of INDIA as a member of the Board of Auditors for a three-year term of office beginning on 1 July 1996.

As a result, the Board of Auditors is composed as follows: Auditor-General of GHANA,* Comptroller and Auditor-General of INDIA*** and Comptroller and Auditor-General of the UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.**

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*Term of office expires on 30 June 1997.

**Term of office expires on 30 June 1998.

***Term of office expires on 30 June 1999.

[8] A/50/776, para. 4.

50/316. Confirmation of the appointment of members of the Investments Committee

At its 94th plenary meeting, on 18 December 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Fifth Committee,[9] confirmed the appointment by the Secretary-General of the following persons as members of the Investments Committee for a three-year term of office beginning on 1 January 1996: Mr. Yves Oltramare, Mr. Emmanuel Noi Omaboe and Mr. Jürgen Reimnitz.

At the same meeting, the General Assembly also appointed Mr. Takeshi Ohta to fill the remainder of a three-year term of office expiring on 31 December 1996.

As a result, the Investments Committee is composed as follows: Mr. Ahmad ABDULLATIF (*Saudi Arabia*),** Ms. Francine J. BOVICH (*United States of America*),* Mr. Aloysio de Andrade FARIA (*Brazil*),** Mr. Jean GUYOT (*France*),* Mr. Takeshi OHTA (*Japan*),* Mr. Yves OLTRAMARE (*Switzerland*),*** Mr. Emmanuel Noi OMABOE (*Ghana*),*** Mr. Stanislaw RACZKOWSKI (*Poland*)** and Mr. Jürgen REIMNITZ (*Germany*).***

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*Term of office expires on 31 December 1996.

**Term of office expires on 31 December 1997.

***Term of office expires on 31 December 1998.

[9] A/50/777, para. 4.

50/317. Appointment of members of the United Nations Administrative Tribunal

At its 94th plenary meeting, on 18 December 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Fifth Committee,[10] appointed the following persons as members of the United Nations Administrative Tribunal for a three-year term of office beginning on 1 January 1996: Mr. Francis Spain and Ms. Deborah Taylor Ashford.

As a result, the United Nations Administrative Tribunal is composed as follows: Mr. BALANDA Mikuin Leliel (*Zaire*),** Mr. Mayer GABAY (*Israel*),* Mr. Luis de POSADAS MONTERO (*Uruguay*),* Mr. Samarendranath SEN (*India*),** Mr. Francis SPAIN (*Ireland*),*** Ms. Deborah TAYLOR ASHFORD (*United States of America*)*** and Mr. Hubert THIERRY (*France*).**

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*Term of office expires on 31 December 1996.

**Term of office expires on 31 December 1997.

***Term of office expires on 31 December 1998.

[10] A/50/778, para. 4.

50/318. Appointment of a member of the Joint Inspection Unit

At its 95th plenary meeting, on 19 December 1995, the General Assembly, pursuant to article 3, paragraph 2, of the statute of the Joint Inspection Unit, contained in the annex to Assembly resolution 31/192 of 22 December 1976, and on the recommendation of the President,[11] appointed Mr. Louis Dominique Ouedraogo as a member of the Joint Inspection Unit for a five-year term of office beginning on 1 January 1996.

As a result, the Joint Inspection Unit is composed as follows: Mr. Andrzej ABRASZEWSKI (*Poland*),**** Mr. Fatih BOUAYAD-AGHA (*Algeria*),* Mr. John D. FOX

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[11] A/50/817.

(*United States of America*),**** Mr. Homero Luis HERNANDEZ SANCHEZ (*Dominican Republic*),* Mr. Boris Petrovitch KRASULIN (*Russian Federation*),* Mr. Sumihiro KUYAMA (*Japan*),*** Mr. Francesco MEZZALAMA (*Italy*),* Mr. Wolfgang M. MÜNCH (*Germany*),**** Mr. Khalil Issa OTHMAN (*Jordan*),* Mr. Louis Dominique OUEDRAGO (*Burkina Faso*)**** and Mr. Raúl QUIJANO (*Argentina*).**

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*Term of office expires on 31 December 1997.
**Term of office expires on 31 December 1998.
***Term of office expires on 31 December 1999.
****Term of office expires on 31 December 2000.

B. OTHER DECISIONS

1. *Decisions adopted without reference to a Main Committee*

50/401. Organization of the fiftieth session

At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 22 September 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendations of the General Committee as set forth in its first report,[12] adopted a number of provisions concerning the organization of the fiftieth session.

50/402. Adoption of the agenda and allocation of agenda items

At its 3rd, 41st, 55th and 77th plenary meetings, on 22 September, 26 October, 10 November and 1 December 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendations of the General Committee as set forth in its first,[13] second,[14] third[15] and fourth[16] reports, adopted the agenda[17] and the allocation of agenda items[18] for the fiftieth session.

At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 22 September 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee,[19] decided to defer consideration of the following items and to include them in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session:

Question of the Malagasy islands of Glorieuses, Juan de Nova, Europa and Bassas da India;

Question of East Timor.

At its 41st plenary meeting, on 26 October 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee,[20] decided to include in the agenda of its fiftieth session an item entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women: Action for Equality, Development and Peace" and to consider it directly in plenary meeting for the purpose of endorsing the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action; it also decided to allocate the item to the Second and Third Committees as appropriate for its substantive consideration.

At the same meeting, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee,[21] decided to include in the agenda of its fiftieth session an additional sub-item entitled "Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights" under agenda item 112 (Human rights questions) and to allocate it to the Third Committee.

At its 55th plenary meeting, on 10 November 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee,[22] decided to include in the agenda of its fiftieth session an additional sub-item entitled "Food and sustainable agricultural development" under agenda item 95 (Sustainable development and international economic co-operation) and to allocate it to the Second Committee.

At the same meeting, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee,[23] decided to include in the agenda of its fiftieth session an additional sub-item entitled "Appointment of a member of the Joint Inspection Unit" under agenda item 17 (Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments) and to consider it directly in plenary meeting.

At its 77th plenary meeting, on 1 December 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee,[24] decided to include in the agenda of its fiftieth session an additional item entitled "Admission of the World Tourism Organization to membership in the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

At the same meeting, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee,[25] decided to include in the agenda of its fiftieth session an additional sub-item entitled "Election of a member of the International Court of Justice" under agenda item 15 (Elections to fill vacancies in principal organs) and to consider it directly in plenary meeting.

Also at the same meeting, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee,[26] decided to consider agenda item 164 (Normalization of the situation concerning South Africa), given its political importance, directly in plenary meeting, on the understanding that, owing to the financial complexity of the matter, the Fifth Committee would be invited to provide technical observations regarding the implementation of any draft resolutions to be submitted for action by the General Assembly in plenary meeting; it also decided that the Fifth Committee should be asked to submit its technical observations by 12 December 1995.

50/403. Meetings of subsidiary organs during the fiftieth session

A

At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 19 September 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Committee on Conferences,[27] decided that the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund should be authorized to hold meetings from 18 August to 22 September 1995.

B

At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 22 September 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Committee on Conferences[27] and of the General Committee,[28] decided that the following subsidiary organs should be authorized to hold meetings during the fiftieth session:

(*a*) Advisory Committee on the United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa;

(*b*) Committee on Relations with the Host Country;

(*c*) Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People;

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[12] A/50/250, paras. 5-37.

[13] Ibid., para. 45.

[14] A/50/250/Add.1.

[15] A/50/250/Add.2.

[16] A/50/250/Add.3.

[17] A/50/251 and Add.1-3.

[18] A/50/252 and Add.1-3.

[19] A/50/250, paras. 41 and 42.

[20] A/50/250/Add.1, para. 1.

[21] Ibid., para. 2.

[22] A/50/250/Add.2, para. 1.

[23] Ibid., para. 2.

[24] A/50/250/Add.3, para. 1.

[25] Ibid., para. 2.

[26] Ibid., para. 4.

[27] A/50/404.

[28] A/50/250, para. 35.

(*d*) Open-ended High-level Working Group on the Strengthening of the United Nations System;

(*e*) Preparatory Committee for the Fiftieth Anniversary of the United Nations;

(*f*) Working Group on the Financing of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East.

C

At its 41st plenary meeting, on 26 October 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Committee on Conferences,[29] decided that the following subsidiary organs should be authorized to hold meetings during the fiftieth session:

(*a*) Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on an Agenda for Development;

(*b*) High-level Open-ended Working Group on the Financial Situation of the United Nations;

(*c*) Open-ended Working Group on the Question of Equitable Representation on and Increase in the Membership of the Security Council and Other Matters Related to the Security Council.

50/404. Report of the International Court of Justice

At its 30th plenary meeting, on 12 October 1995, the General Assembly took note of the report of the International Court of Justice.[30]

50/405. Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization

At its 33rd plenary meeting, on 18 October 1995, the General Assembly took note of the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization.[31]

50/406. Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas)

At its 45th plenary meeting, on 31 October 1995, the General Assembly decided to defer consideration of the item entitled "Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas)" and to include it in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session.

50/408. Report of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991

At its 52nd plenary meeting, on 7 November 1995, the General Assembly took note of the report of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991.[32]

50/409. Report of the Security Council

At its 73rd plenary meeting, on 29 November 1995, the General Assembly took note of the report of the Security Council.[33]

50/422. Declaration of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity on the aerial and naval military attack against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya by the present United States Administration in April 1986

At its 94th plenary meeting, on 18 December 1995, the General Assembly decided to defer consideration of the item entitled "Declaration of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity on the aerial and naval military attack against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya by the present United States Administration in April 1986" and to include it in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session.

50/423. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe

At its 94th plenary meeting, on 18 December 1995, the General Assembly, on the proposal of Hungary,[34] decided to authorize Switzerland, on an ad hoc basis, as the State holding the chairmanship of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe during the period from 1 January to 31 December 1996, to submit communications on behalf of the States members of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe for circulation as United Nations documents and to participate in discussions in the General Assembly that are of direct concern to the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, during the period in question.

50/444. Armed Israeli aggression against the Iraqi nuclear installations and its grave consequences for the established international system concerning the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and international peace and security

At its 97th plenary meeting, on 21 December 1995, the General Assembly decided to defer consideration of the item entitled "Armed Israeli aggression against the Iraqi nuclear installations and its grave consequences for the established international system concerning the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and international peace and security" and to include it in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session.

50/445. Consequences of the Iraqi occupation of and aggression against Kuwait

At its 97th plenary meeting, on 21 December 1995, the General Assembly decided to defer consideration of the item entitled "Consequences of the Iraqi occupation of and aggression against Kuwait" and to include it in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session.

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[29] A/50/404/Add.1.

[30] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 4* (A/50/4).

[31] Ibid., *Supplement No. 1* (A/50/1).

[32] A/50/365-S/1995/728; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fiftieth Year, Supplement for July, August and September 1995*, document S/1995/728.

[33] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 2* (A/50/2).

[34] A/50/L.63.

50/457. Implementation of the resolutions of the United Nations

At its 98th plenary meeting, on 22 December 1995, the General Assembly decided to defer consideration of the item entitled "Implementation of the resolutions of the United Nations" and to include it in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session.

50/458. Notification by the Secretary-General under Article 12, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations

At its 98th plenary meeting, on 22 December 1995, the General Assembly took note of the note by the Secretary-General.[35]

50/467. Report of the Economic and Social Council

At its 99th plenary meeting, on 22 December 1995, the General Assembly took note of chapters I, II, V (section A), VI (section N), XIII and XIV of the report of the Economic and Social Council.[36]

50/468. Launching of global negotiations on international economic cooperation for development

At its 99th plenary meeting, on 22 December 1995, the General Assembly decided to defer consideration of the item entitled "Launching of global negotiations on international economic cooperation for development" and to include it in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session.

50/475. Agenda items remaining for consideration by the General Assembly at its fiftieth session

At its 100th plenary meeting, on 23 December 1995, the General Assembly, apart from organizational matters and items that may have to be considered by operation of the rules of procedure of the Assembly, decided that the following agenda items remained for consideration during the fiftieth session:

Item 10:	Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization;
Item 12:	Report of the Economic and Social Council;
Item 15 (*c*):	Election of a member of the International Court of Justice;
Item 16 (*b*):	Election of twelve members of the World Food Council;
Item 20 (*b*):	Special economic assistance to individual countries or regions;
Item 23:	Restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields;
Item 28:	The situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina;
Item 35:	Question of the Comorian island of Mayotte;
Item 38:	The situation of democracy and human rights in Haiti;
Item 42:	Question of Palestine;
Item 47:	Question of equitable representation on and increase in the membership of the Security Council and related matters;
Item 55:	Question of Cyprus;
Item 112 (*b*):	Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms;
Item 114:	Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations;
Item 115:	Programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995;
Item 116:	Proposed programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997;
Item 117:	Improving the financial situation of the United Nations;
Item 118:	Joint Inspection Unit;
Item 120:	Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations;
Item 121:	United Nations common system;
Item 122:	Financing of the United Nations peace-keeping forces in the Middle East;
Item 123:	Financing of the United Nations Angola Verification Mission;
Item 124:	Financing of the activities arising from Security Council resolution 687 (1991);
Item 125:	Financing of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara;
Item 126:	Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in El Salvador;
Item 127:	Financing and liquidation of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia;
Item 128:	Financing of the United Nations Protection Force, the United Nations Confidence Restoration Operation in Croatia, the United Nations Preventive Deployment Force and the United Nations Peace Forces headquarters;
Item 129:	Financing of the United Nations Operation in Somalia II;
Item 130:	Financing of the liquidation of the United Nations Operation in Mozambique;
Item 131:	Financing of the United Nations Peace-keeping Force in Cyprus;
Item 132:	Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia;
Item 133:	Financing of the United Nations Mission in Haiti;
Item 134:	Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Liberia;
Item 135:	Financing of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda;
Item 136:	Financing of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humani-

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[35] A/50/442.

[36] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/50/3/Rev.1).

tarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991;

Item 137: Financing of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan;

Item 138: Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations;

Item 149: Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services;

Item 151: Report of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994;

Item 159: Human resources management;

Item 160: Financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994;

Item 163: Strengthening of the United Nations system.

2. *Decisions adopted on the reports of the First Committee*

50/417. Education and information for disarmament

At its 90th plenary meeting, on 12 December 1995, the General Assembly took note of the report of the First Committee.[37]

50/418. Review of the implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security

At its 90th plenary meeting, on 12 December 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee,[38] decided to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session the item entitled "Review of the implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security".

50/419. Reduction of military budgets

At its 90th plenary meeting, on 12 December 1995, the General Assembly took note of the report of the First Committee.[39]

50/420. Non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and of vehicles for their delivery in all its aspects

At its 90th plenary meeting, on 12 December 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee,[40] recalling its decision 49/427 of 15 December 1994, decided to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session the item entitled "Non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and of vehicles for their delivery in all its aspects".

50/421. Rationalization of the work and reform of the agenda of the First Committee

At its 90th plenary meeting, on 12 December 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee,[41] welcoming the progress achieved in the rationalization and improvement of the work of the First Committee, requested the Chairman of the First Committee to continue consultations on the further rationalization of the work of the Committee with a view to improving further its effective functioning, and decided to defer until its fifty-second session consideration of the item entitled "Rationalization of the work and reform of the agenda of the First Committee" and to include it in the provisional agenda of that session.

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[37] A/50/578.

[38] A/50/580, para. 7.

[39] A/50/581.

[40] A/50/590 and Corr.1, para. 72.

[41] A/50/599, para. 6.

3. *Decisions adopted on the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)*

50/411. Increase in the membership of the Committee on Information[42]

At its 82nd plenary meeting, on 6 December 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee),[5] decided to increase the membership of the Committee on Information from eighty-eight to eighty-nine members.

50/412. Military activities and arrangements by colonial Powers in Territories under their administration

At its 82nd plenary meeting, on 6 December 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee),[43] adopted the following text:

"1. The General Assembly, having considered the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to an item on the agenda of the Special Committee entitled 'Military activities and arrangements by colonial Powers in Territories under their administration',[44] and recalling its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 and all other relevant resolutions and decisions of the United Nations relating to military activities in colonial and Non-Self-Governing Territories, reaffirms its strong conviction that military bases and installations in the Territories concerned could constitute an obstacle to the exercise by the people of those Territories of their right to self-determination, and reiterates its strong views that existing bases and installations, which are impeding the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, should be withdrawn.

"2. Aware of the presence of such bases and installations in some of those Territories, the General Assembly urges the administering Powers concerned to continue to take all necessary measures not to involve those Territories in any offensive acts or interference against other States.

"3. The General Assembly reiterates its concern that military activities and arrangements by colonial Powers in Territories under their administration might run counter to the rights and interests of the colonial peoples concerned, especially their right to self-determination and independence. The Assembly once again calls upon the administering Powers concerned to terminate such activities and to eliminate such military bases in compliance with its relevant resolutions.

"4. The General Assembly reiterates that the colonial and Non-Self-Governing Territories and areas adjacent thereto should not be used for nuclear testing, dumping of nuclear wastes or deployment of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction.

"5. The General Assembly deplores the continued alienation of land in colonial and Non-Self-Governing Territories, particularly in the small island Territories of the Pacific and Caribbean regions, for military installations. The large-scale utilization of the local resources for this purpose could adversely affect the economic development of the Territories concerned.

"6. The General Assembly takes note of the decision of some of the administering Powers to close or downsize some of those military bases in the Non-Self-Governing Territories.

"7. The General Assembly requests the Secretary-General to continue to inform world public opinion of those military activities and arrangements in colonial and Non-Self-Governing Territories which constitute an obstacle to the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

"8. The General Assembly requests the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue to examine this question and to report thereon to the Assembly at its fifty-first session."

50/413. The situation in the occupied territories of Croatia

At its 82nd plenary meeting, on 6 December 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee),[45] decided to defer consideration of the item entitled "The situation in the occupied territories of Croatia" and to include it in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session.

50/414. Question of the composition of the relevant organs of the United Nations

At its 82nd plenary meeting, on 6 December 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee),[46] decided to defer consideration of the item entitled "Question of the composition of the relevant organs of the United Nations" until its fifty-first session and to include it in the provisional agenda of that session.

50/415. Question of Gibraltar

At its 82nd plenary meeting, on 6 December 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee),[47] adopted the following text as representing the consensus of the members of the Assembly:

"The General Assembly, recalling its decision 49/420 of 9 December 1994 and recalling at the same time that the statement agreed to by the Governments of Spain and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland at Brussels on 27 November 1984[48] stipulates, *inter alia*, the following:

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[42] See also decision 50/311.

[43] A/50/610, para. 12.

[44] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/50/23), chap. VI.

[45] A/50/613, para. 5.

[46] A/50/614, para. 3.

[47] A/50/602, para. 30.

[48] A/39/732, annex.

'The establishment of a negotiating process aimed at overcoming all the differences between them over Gibraltar and at promoting cooperation on a mutually beneficial basis on economic, cultural, touristic, aviation, military and environmental matters. Both sides accept that the issues of sovereignty will be discussed in that process. The British Government will fully maintain its commitment to honour the wishes of the people of Gibraltar as set out in the preamble of the 1969 Constitution',

takes note of the fact that, as part of that process, the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Spain and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland hold annual meetings alternately in each capital, the most recent of which took place in London on 20 December 1994, and urges both Governments to continue their negotiations with the object of reaching a definitive solution to the problem of Gibraltar in the light of relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and in the spirit of the Charter of the United Nations."

4. *Decisions adopted on the reports of the Second Committee*

50/424. Documents relating to macroeconomic policy questions

At its 96th plenary meeting, on 20 December 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Second Committee,[49] took note of the following documents:

(*a*) Report of the Secretary-General on the sources of finance for development at mid-decade;[50]

(*b*) Report of the Secretary-General on long-term trends in social and economic development.[51]

50/425. Sustainable development and international economic cooperation

At its 96th plenary meeting, on 20 December 1995, the General Assembly took note of part one of the report of the Second Committee.[52]

50/426. Report of the Secretary-General on the programme for the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa

At its 96th plenary meeting, on 20 December 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Second Committee,[53] took note of the report of the Secretary-General on the programme for the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa.[54]

50/427. Note by the Secretary-General on negotiations on an international code of conduct on transfer of technology

At its 96th plenary meeting, on 20 December 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Second Committee,[55] took note of the note by the Secretary-General on negotiations on an international code of conduct on transfer of technology.[56]

50/428. Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the regional commissions on the preparations for the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) at the regional level

At its 96th plenary meeting, on 20 December 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Second Committee,[57] took note of the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the regional commissions on the preparations for the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) at the regional level.[58]

50/429. Report of the Secretary-General on the mid-term global review of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s

At its 96th plenary meeting, on 20 December 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Second Committee,[59] took note of the report of the Secretary-General on the mid-term global review of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s.[60]

50/430. Environment and sustainable development

At its 96th plenary meeting, on 20 December 1995, the General Assembly took note of part one of the report of the Second Committee.[61]

50/431. Report of the Secretary-General on products harmful to health and the environment

At its 96th plenary meeting, on 20 December 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Second Committee,[62] took note of the report of the Secretary-General on products harmful to health and the environment.[63]

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[49] A/50/616, para. 21.

[50] A/50/397.

[51] A/50/429.

[52] A/50/617 and Corr.1.

[53] A/50/617/Add.12, para. 9.

[54] A/50/487.

[55] A/50/617/Add.1, para. 22.

[56] A/50/486.

[57] A/50/617/Add.3, para. 10.

[58] A/50/411.

[59] A/50/617/Add.5, para. 10.

[60] A/50/746.

[61] A/50/618.

[62] A/50/618/Add.6, para. 8.

[63] A/50/182-E/1995/66 and Corr.1.

50/432. Notes by the Secretary-General on the elaboration of an international convention to combat desertification in those countries experiencing serious drought and/or desertification, particularly in Africa

At its 96th plenary meeting, on 20 December 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Second Committee,[64] took note of the notes by the Secretary-General on the elaboration of an international convention to combat desertification in those countries experiencing serious drought and/or desertification, particularly in Africa.[65]

50/433. Report of the Secretary-General on observance of World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought: implementation of General Assembly resolution 49/115

At its 96th plenary meeting, on 20 December 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Second Committee,[66] took note of the report of the Secretary-General on observance of World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought: implementation of General Assembly resolution 49/115.[67]

50/434. Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme on the overall implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification, including implementation in the Sudano-Sahelian region

At its 96th plenary meeting, on 20 December 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Second Committee,[66] took note of the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme on the overall implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification, including implementation in the Sudano-Sahelian region.[68]

50/435. Report of the Secretary-General concerning the core functions of the secretariat of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction submitted pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1995/47 B

At its 96th plenary meeting, on 20 December 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Second Committee,[69] took note of the report of the Secretary-General concerning the core functions of the secretariat of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction submitted pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1995/47 B.[70]

50/436. Documents relating to operational activities for development

At its 96th plenary meeting, on 20 December 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Second Committee,[71] took note of the following documents:

(*a*) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "National execution of projects";[72]

(*b*) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the comments of the Administrative Committee on Coordination on the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "National execution of projects";[73]

(*c*) Report of the Secretary-General drawing the attention of the General Assembly to the report of the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries on the work of its ninth session.[74]

50/437. Agenda for development

At its 96th plenary meeting, on 20 December 1995, the General Assembly took note of the report of the Second Committee.[75]

50/438. United Nations Population Fund: institutional arrangements

At its 96th plenary meeting, on 20 December 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Second Committee,[76] noted Economic and Social Council decision 1995/231 of 13 July 1995 and decision 95/20 of 14 June 1995 of the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund,[77] and endorsed the agreement between the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Population Fund to designate Fund resident country directors as Fund representatives, on the understanding that the Fund would take measures to enhance cooperation with and active support for resident coordinators for operational activities of the United Nations, bearing in mind General Assembly resolution 47/199 of 22 December 1992, and on the understanding that the agreement would not result in increased administrative expenditure for the Fund.

50/439. Documents relating to the report of the Economic and Social Council

At its 96th plenary meeting, on 20 December 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Second Committee,[76] took note of the following documents:

(*a*) Note by the Secretary-General on the United Nations Population Award;[78]

(*b*) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Director-General of the World Health Organization on the progress made in the implementation of the global AIDS strategy;[79]

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[64] A/50/618/Add.1, para. 21.

[65] A/50/74 and Add.1.

[66] A/50/618/Add.2, para. 9.

[67] A/50/516.

[68] A/50/227-E/1995/99.

[69] A/50/618/Add.5, para. 12.

[70] A/50/521.

[71] A/50/619, para. 18.

[72] A/50/113.

[73] A/50/113/Add.1.

[74] A/50/421.

[75] A/50/621.

[76] A/50/615/Add.1, para. 27.

[77] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1995, Supplement No. 14 (E/1995/34).*

[78] A/50/132.

(*c*) Note by the Secretary-General on the revision of the general regulations of the World Food Programme and reconstitution of the Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes as the Executive Board of the World Food Programme.[80]

50/440. Biennial programme of work of the Second Committee for 1996-1997

At its 96th plenary meeting, on 20 December 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Second Committee,[81] in accordance with paragraph 5 of its resolution 39/217 of 18 December 1984, approved the biennial programme of work of the Second Committee for 1996-1997, as annexed to the present decision.

ANNEX

Biennial programme of work of the Second Committee for 1996-1997[82]

1996

Item 1. *Report of the Economic and Social Council*[83]

United Nations Population Award

Documentation: Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund on the United Nations Population Award and Trust Fund (Economic and Social Council decision 1982/112)

Permanent sovereignty over national resources in the occupied Palestinian and other Arab territories

Documentation: Report of the Secretary-General on the economic and social repercussions of the Israeli settlements on the Palestinian people in the Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, occupied since 1967, and on the Arab population of the occupied Syrian Golan (Economic and Social Council resolution 1995/49 and General Assembly resolution 50/129)[84]

Preventive action and intensification of the struggle against malaria in developing countries, particularly in Africa

Documentation: Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Director-General of the World Health Organization (General Assembly resolution 50/128)

Business and development

Documentation: Report of the Committee on an International Agreement on Illicit Payments (General Assembly resolution 50/106)[84]

Item 2. *Macroeconomic policy questions*

(*a*) Implementation of the commitments and policies agreed upon in the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries

(*b*) Implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade

Documentation: Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, and the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade (General Assembly resolutions 45/199, 47/152, 48/185 and 49/92)

(*c*) Net transfer of resources between developing and developed countries

Documentation: Report of the Secretary-General (General Assembly resolution 49/93)

(*d*) *Financing of development*

Documentation: Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/91

(*e*) *External debt crisis and development*

Documentation: Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/92

Item 3. *Sustainable development and international economic cooperation*

Documentation: Report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/130 on communication for development programmes in the United Nations system

Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council

(*a*) *Trade and development*

Documentation: Report of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on its ninth session (General Assembly resolution 50/98)

Report of the Trade and Development Board (General Assembly resolution 1995 (XIX))[84]

Report of the Secretary-General on strengthening international organizations in the area of multilateral trade (General Assembly resolution 49/97)

Report of the Secretary-General on specific measures in favour of island developing countries (General Assembly resolution 49/100)

Note by the Secretary-General of the United Nations transmitting the report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 49/102 on the transit system of the newly independent and developing land-locked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours

(*b*) *Food and sustainable agricultural development*

Documentation; Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 49/103

(*c*) *Integration of the economies in transition into the world economy*

Documentation: Report of the Secretary-General (General Assembly resolutions 48/181 and 49/106)

(*d*) *Industrial development cooperation*

Documentation: Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 49/108

(*e*) *Cultural development*

Documentation: Report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on progress in the implementation of the World Decade for Cultural Development (General Assembly resolutions 41/187, 44/238, 45/189, 46/157 and 49/105)[84]

(*f*) United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)

Documentation: Report of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) (General Assembly resolution 47/180)

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of and follow-up to the Conference, including the role of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (General Assembly resolution 50/100)

(*g*) Implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development

Documentation: Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/124[84]

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[79] A/50/175-E/1995/57.

[80] A/50/706.

[81] A/50/615/Add.2, para. 4.

[82] The Second Committee will, in accordance with established practice and in pursuance of General Assembly decision 38/429, hold a general debate each year at the beginning of its work.

[83] The list of questions and documentation under this item corresponds to requests for reports from the General Assembly. The list will be finalized after the Economic and Social Council completes its work in 1996.

[84] Report submitted to the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council.

Question for consideration for which no advance documentation has been requested

Commodities (General Assembly resolution 49/104)

Item 4. *Environment and sustainable development*

(*a*) Implementation of the decisions and recommendations of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development

Documentation: Relevant section of the report of the Economic and Social Council on the work of the Commission on Sustainable Development on its fourth session (General Assembly resolution 47/191)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity on the results of the second meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention (General Assembly resolution 50/111)[84]

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/112 on the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for the Elaboration of an International Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa (General Assembly resolution 50/112)

(*b*) *Special session for the purpose of an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of Agenda 21*

Documentation: Report of the Secretary-General on the state of preparations for the 1997 special session (General Assembly resolution 50/113)

(*c*) *International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction*

Documentation: Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the International Framework of Action for the Decade (General Assembly resolution 50/117 A)[84]

Report of the Secretary-General containing proposals to enhance the programme and coordination capacity of the secretariat of the Decade (General Assembly resolution 50/117 A)

(*d*) Implementation of the outcome of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

Documentation: Report of the Secretary-General on action taken to implement General Assembly resolution 50/116

(*e*) Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind

Documentation: Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/115

Item 5. *Operational activities for development*

Documentation: Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council

Item 6. *Training and research*

United Nations University

Documentation: Report of the Council of the United Nations University, including the information requested in General Assembly resolution 49/124[84]

Report of the Secretary-General (General Assembly resolution 49/124)

United Nations Institute for Training and Research

Documentation: Report of the Board of Trustees of the Institute

Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (General Assembly resolution 50/121)

Item 7. *Agenda for development*

(*a*) *Agenda for development*

No advance documentation requested.

(*b*) *Renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership*

Documentation: Report of the Secretary-General (General Assembly resolution 50/122)

Item 8. First United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006)

Documentation: Report of the Secretary-General on action taken to implement the programme for the observance of the International Year for the Eradication of Poverty (1996) and on action to be taken in preparation for the Decade (General Assembly resolution 50/107)

Report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination on activities envisaged in support of the Decade (General Assembly resolution 50/107)[84]

1997[85]

Item 1. *Report of the Economic and Social Council*[86]

Target for World Food Programme pledges for the period 1999-2000

Documentation: Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council

Prevention and control of acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS)

Documentation: Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Director-General of the World Health Organization on progress in the implementation of the global strategy for the prevention and control of acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) (General Assembly resolution 47/40)[84]

World Food Summit

Documentation: Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations on the outcome of the World Food Summit (General Assembly resolution 50/109)[84]

Item 2. *Macroeconomic policy questions*

Financing of development

Documentation: Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/93

Item 3. *Sustainable development and international economic cooperation*

Documentation: Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/94 on the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa

(*a*) *Trade and development*

Documentation: Report of the Trade and Development Board (General Assembly resolution 1995 (XIX))[84]

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/96 on economic measures as a means of political and economic coercion against developing countries

Report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of land-locked developing countries (General Assembly resolution 50/97)

(*b*) *Human settlements*

Documentation: Report of the Commission on Human Settlements, including the report of the Commission on the implementation of the Global Strategy for Shelter to the Year 2000 (General Assembly resolutions 32/162, 43/180 and 43/181)[84]

(*c*) *Science and technology for development*

Documentation: Report of the Secretary-General on progress in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/101

(*d*) *Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s*

Documentation: Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/103

(*e*) *Effective mobilization and integration of women in development*

Documentation: Report of the Secretary-General (General Assembly resolutions 42/178 and 50/104)

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[85] The programme of work and documentation list for 1997 will be updated in 1996, taking into account the relevant decisions of the General Assembly at its fifty-first session.

[86] The list of questions and documentation under this item is only indicative of requests for reports from the General Assembly. The list will be finalized after the Council completes its work in 1997.

(*f*) *Human resources development*

Documentation: Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/105

(*g*) *Business and development*

Documentation: Report of the Secretary-General (General Assembly resolution 48/180)

Item 4. *Environment and sustainable development*

Documentation: Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme (General Assembly resolution 2997 (XXVII))[84]

Note by the Secretary-General on international conventions and protocols in the field of the environment (General Assembly resolution 3436 (XXX))

Report of the Secretary-General on the review of the arrangements for administrative support to the secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (General Assembly resolution 50/115)

Oral report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/110

(*a*) Implementation of decisions and recommendations of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development

Documentation: Relevant section of the report of the Economic and Social Council on the work of the Commission for Sustainable Development on its fifth session (General Assembly resolution 47/191)

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/114 on desertification and drought

(*b*) *International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction*

Documentation: Report of the Secretary-General on progress made in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/117 B

Item 5. *Operational activities for development*

(*a*) Operational activities for development of the United Nations system

Documentation: Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council

(*b*) Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries

Documentation: Report of the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries (General Assembly resolution 33/134)[84]

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/118 on cooperation between the United Nations and the Southern African Development Community

Report of the Secretary-General on the state of South-South cooperation (General Assembly resolution 50/119)

Item 6. *Training and research*

No advance documentation requested.

Item 7. *International migration and development, including the convening of a United Nations conference on international migration and development*

Documentation: Report of the Secretary-General (General Assembly resolution 50/123)

5. *Decisions adopted on the reports of the Third Committee*

50/441. Documents considered by the General Assembly in connection with the question of the elimination of racism and racial discrimination

At its 97th plenary meeting, on 21 December 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Third Committee,[87] took note of the following documents:

(*a*) Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid;[88]

(*b*) Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination;[89]

(*c*) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting to the General Assembly the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance.[90]

50/442. Reports considered by the General Assembly in connection with the question of social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family

At its 97th plenary meeting, on 21 December 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Third Committee,[91] took note of the following reports:

(*a*) Report of the Secretary-General containing the interim report on the world social situation;[92]

(*b*) Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons.[93]

50/443. Document considered by the General Assembly in connection with the question of crime prevention and criminal justice

At its 97th plenary meeting, on 21 December 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Third Committee,[94] took note of the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Ninth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders.[95]

50/459. Documents considered by the General Assembly in connection with the question of the advancement of women

At its 99th plenary meeting, on 22 December 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Third Committee,[96] took note of the following documents:

(*a*) Report of the Secretary-General on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;[97]

(*b*) Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women.[98]

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[87] A/50/626, para. 24.

[88] A/50/468.

[89] A/50/493.

[90] A/50/476.

[91] A/50/628, para. 26.

[92] A/50/84-E/1995/12.

[93] A/50/473.

[94] A/50/629, para. 23.

[95] A/50/373.

[96] A/50/630 and Corr.1, para. 35.

[97] A/50/346.

[98] A/50/538.

50/460. Human rights questions

At its 99th plenary meeting, on 22 December 1995, the General Assembly took note of part one of the report of the Third Committee.[99]

50/461. Documents considered by the General Assembly in connection with human rights questions: human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives

At its 99th plenary meeting, on 22 December 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Third Committee,[100] took note of the following documents:

(*a*) Report of the Secretary-General on rape and abuse of women in the areas of armed conflict in the former Yugoslavia;[101]

(*b*) Note by the Secretary-General on the situation of human rights in southern Lebanon and the western Bekaa.[102]

50/462. Human rights questions: report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

At its 99th plenary meeting, on 22 December 1995, the General Assembly took note of part six of the report of the Third Committee.[103]

50/463. Document considered by the General Assembly in connection with the question of the implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women: Action for Equality, Development and Peace

At its 99th plenary meeting, on 22 December 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Third Committee,[104] took note of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women: Action for Equality, Development and Peace.[105]

50/464. Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

At its 99th plenary meeting, on 22 December 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Third Committee,[106] recalling its resolution 48/141 of 20 December 1993, decided to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first and subsequent sessions a sub-item entitled "Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights" under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

50/465. Organization of work of the Third Committee and biennial programme of work of the Committee for 1996-1997

At its 99th plenary meeting, on 22 December 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Third Committee,[20] pursuant to its resolutions 45/175 of 18 December 1990 and 46/140 of 17 December 1991, approved the organization of work of the Third Committee and the biennial programme of work of the Committee for 1996-1997, as contained in annexes I and II to the present decision.

ANNEX I

Organization of work of the Third Committee

A. GUIDELINES CONCERNING TIME-LIMITS OF STATEMENTS

1. In accordance with rule 106 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and paragraph 22 of decision 34/401 on the rationalization of the procedures and organization of the General Assembly, at the beginning of each session, the Chairman of the Third Committee should propose to the Committee the limitation of the time to be allowed to speakers.

2. Further to General Assembly resolutions 45/175 of 18 December 1990 and 46/140 of 17 December 1991, on the rationalization of the work of the Third Committee, statements made by delegations or on behalf of groups of delegations and by Secretariat officials, unless decided otherwise by the Committee at the beginning of the session, should not exceed 15 minutes. This time-limit will have to be applied with a degree of flexibility towards all speakers. With a view to saving time, all speakers are encouraged to exercise self-discipline, in particular delegations associated with group statements. For practical reasons, group statements are encouraged for the first day of the discussion of an item or sub-item. In this connection, it is important to emphasize the timely distribution of documentation in accordance with the rules of procedure of the Assembly, in order to enable delegations to inscribe themselves on the list of speakers at an early stage.

B. DRAFT RESOLUTIONS ON REPORTS OF TREATY BODIES AND REPORTS OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON THE STATUS OF THE TREATIES

3. Reports of all treaty bodies will be submitted to the General Assembly in accordance with their respective legislative mandates. Substantive resolutions on those reports should be adopted biennially, in accordance with the programme of work of the Third Committee. Where possible, it is recommended that separate draft resolutions on the status of the treaties should not be submitted but should be incorporated in the draft resolution relating to the report of the treaty body. In alternate years, the Committee should simply take note of the reports unless more substantive action is deemed appropriate.

C. PROPOSALS EMANATING FROM SUBSIDIARY ORGANS OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

4. The Economic and Social Council, in transmitting proposals to the General Assembly, should, to the extent possible, bear in mind the programme of work of the Third Committee.

D. PROGRAMME OF WORK

5. An informal meeting of the Third Committee should be held immediately after the election of the members of its Bureau in order to consider the programme of work of the Committee on the basis of a draft to be prepared by the Secretariat and to consider other organizational aspects relating to the Committee's work, especially the status of documentation.

6. The items allocated to the Third Committee for consideration during the fifty-first session of the General Assembly should be taken up in the following order:

Item 2. Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family

Item 3. Crime prevention and criminal justice

Item 4. International drug control

Item 5. Advancement of women

Item 6. Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women

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[99] A/50/635.

[100] A/50/635/Add.3, para. 77.

[101] A/50/329.

[102] A/50/662.

[103] A/50/635/Add.5.

[104] A/50/816, para. 15.

[105] A/50/744.

[106] A/50/625, para. 10.

Item 7. Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions

Item 8. Promotion and protection of the rights of children

Item 9. Programme of activities for the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People

Item 10. Elimination of racism and racial discrimination[107]

Item 11. Right of peoples to self-determination[107]

Item 12. Human rights questions:[108,109]

(*a*) Implementation of human rights instruments;

(*b*) Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

(*c*) Human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives;

(*d*) Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action;

(*e*) Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights;

Item 1. Report of the Economic and Social Council

7. This arrangement may be reviewed at the organizational meeting of the Third Committee, in particular in the light of the status of documentation at that time.

E. PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS

8. In drawing up draft resolutions, delegations are requested to adhere to the programme of work of the Third Committee reproduced below.

9. Delegations are invited to take into account the general guidelines agreed upon in General Assembly resolutions 45/175 and 46/140 regarding the submission of proposals and as set out below.[110]

Item 1. Report of the Economic and Social Council

Matters calling for action by the General Assembly (Third Committee) or brought to its attention

Questions that do not fall within the purview of the other items on the agenda of the General Assembly allocated to the Third Committee

Item 2. Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family

Annual

World social situation[111]

Biennial

Implementation of the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities and of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons and the Long-term Strategy to Implement the World Programme of Action Concerning Disabled Persons to the Year 2000 and Beyond (odd years)

Implementation of the International Plan of Action on Ageing, the International Year of Older Persons (1999) and related activities (odd years)

Implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond (odd years)

National experience in promoting the cooperative movement (even years)

Implementation of the Guiding Principles for Developmental Social Welfare Policies and Programmes in the Near Future (odd years)

International Year of the Family (odd years)

Cooperation to achieve education for all (1997)

Quinquennial

Anniversary of the Declaration on Social Progress and Development (1999)

Item 3. Crime prevention and criminal justice

Annual

Strengthening the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme

United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders

Biennial

International cooperation in combating organized crime (even years)

Quinquennial

United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (2000)

Item 4. International drug control

Annual

Implementation of the United Nations System-Wide Action Plan on Drug Abuse Control and the Global Programme of Action against illicit production, supply, demand, trafficking and distribution of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances; international action to combat drug abuse and illicit trafficking; respect for the principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and international law in the fight against drug abuse and illicit trafficking; United Nations International Drug Control Programme; measures to strengthen international cooperation against the illicit production, sale, traffic and distribution of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and related matters; proposal for an international conference to combat the illicit production, sale, demand, traffic and distribution of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and related activities

Biennial

Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (even years)

Item 5. Advancement of women

Annual

Improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat

Violence against women migrant workers

Traffic in women and girls (1996)

Biennial

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (even years)

International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (odd years)

United Nations Development Fund for Women (odd years)

Improvement of the situation of women in rural areas (odd years)

Item 6. Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women

Annual

Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women: Action for Equality, Development and Peace

Item 7. Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions

Annual

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa

Comprehensive consideration and review of the problems of refugees, returnees, displaced persons and related migratory movements (1996)

Assistance to unaccompanied refugee minors (1996)

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[107] Items 10 and 11 are to be considered jointly. Delegations may make two separate statements, i.e., one on each item, if they so wish.

[108] Sub-item (*a*) is to be considered separately; sub-items (*b*), (*c*), (*d*) and (*e*) are to be considered jointly.

[109] Delegations may make one statement under sub-item (*a*) and two statements under sub-items (*b*), (*c*), (*d*) and (*e*), but should not make two statements on any one sub-item.

[110] References to "odd" and "even" years are to calendar years.

[111] 1996 — General debate on the basis of the report of the Economic and Social Council.

1997 — Report on the world social situation and report of the Commission for Social Development.

1998 — General debate on the basis of the report of the Economic and Social Council.

1999 — Interim report on the world social situation and report of the Commission for Social Development.

Biennial

New international humanitarian order (even years)

Quinquennial

Extension of the mandate of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (1997)

Item 8. Promotion and protection of the rights of children

Annual

International measures for the prevention and eradication of the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography; protection of children affected by armed conflicts; the girl child

Biennial

Convention on the Rights of the Child (even years)

Report of the Committee on the Rights of the Child (even years)

Item 9. Programme of activities for the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People

Annual

International Decade of the World's Indigenous People

Biennial

United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations (even years)

Item 10. Elimination of racism and racial discrimination

Annual

Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination

Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

Status of the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid

Financial situation of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

Measures to combat contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance

Biennial

Status of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (even years)

Item 11. Right of peoples to self-determination

Annual

Importance of the universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination and of the speedy granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples for the effective guarantee and observance of human rights

Universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination

Use of mercenaries as a means to violate human rights and to impede the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination (to be considered biennially after the entry into force of the International Convention against the Recruitment, Use, Financing and Training of Mercenaries)

Item 12. Human rights questions

(*a*) *Implementation of human rights instruments*

Annual

Effective implementation of international instruments on human rights, including reporting obligations under international instruments on human rights

International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (biennially after the entry into force of the Convention)

Biennial

Report of the Committee against Torture and status of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (even years)

United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture (even years)

Status of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (even years)

International Covenants on Human Rights (odd years)

(*b*) *Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms*

Annual

Alternative approaches and ways and means within the United Nations system for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

Right to development

Elimination of all forms of religious intolerance

Human rights and terrorism

Strengthening of the Centre for Human Rights of the Secretariat

Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities

Strengthening of United Nations action in the field of human rights through the promotion of international cooperation and the importance of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity

United Nations Year for Tolerance (1996)

Respect for the right to universal freedom of travel and the vital importance of family reunification (1996)

United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education

Strengthening of the rule of law

Biennial

Summary or arbitrary executions (even years)

Development of public information activities in the field of human rights (even years)

Regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights (even years)

Question of enforced or involuntary disappearances (even years)

Human rights and extreme poverty (even years)

Human rights and mass exoduses (odd years)

Human rights in the administration of justice (odd years)

Respect for the principles of national sovereignty and non-interference in the internal affairs of States in their electoral processes (odd years)

Enhancing the effectiveness of the principle of periodic and genuine elections (odd years)

Human rights and scientific and technological progress (odd years)

National institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (odd years)

Quinquennial

Award of human rights prizes

(*c*) Human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives

Information requested in resolution 48/155 on the situation of human rights in Estonia and Latvia (1996)[112]

(*d*) Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action

Annual

Implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights

(*e*) *Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights*

Annual

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

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[112] See also *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Plenary Meetings*, 99th meeting, and corrigendum.

ANNEX II

Biennial programme of work of the Third Committee for 1996-1997

1996[113]

Item 1. *Report of the Economic and Social Council*

Matters calling for action by the General Assembly (Third Committee) or brought to its attention

Documentation

Relevant chapters of the report of the Economic and Social Council on questions that do not fall within the purview of the other items on the agenda of the General Assembly allocated to the Third Committee

Item 2. *Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family*[114]

Documentation

Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 49/155 on the role of cooperatives in the light of new economic and social trends

Item 3. *Crime prevention and criminal justice*

Documentation

Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/145 on the Ninth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 50/146 on strengthening the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme

Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (resolution 50/147)

Item 4. *International drug control*

Documentation

Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council

Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (General Assembly resolutions 49/168, sect. VI, and 50/148, sect. VII)

Report of the Secretary-General containing the biennial update of the United Nations System-Wide Action Plan on Drug Abuse Control (resolution 48/112, sect. IV)[84]

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Global Programme of Action (resolution 50/148)

Item 5. *Advancement of women*

Documentation

Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council

Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (General Assembly resolution 34/180)[84]

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme on the activities of the United Nations Development Fund for Women (resolutions 39/125 and 50/166)

Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (resolution 45/124)

Report of the Secretary-General on the improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat (resolution 50/164)

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 50/167 on traffic in women and girls

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 50/168 on violence against women migrant workers, including the report of the expert group

Item 6. *Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women*

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women: Action for Equality, Development and Peace (General Assembly resolution 50/203)[84]

Report of the Secretary-General on ways to enhance the capacity of the United Nations to support the follow-up to the Conference (resolution 50/203)[84]

Item 7. *Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions*

Documentation

Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Report of the Secretary-General on a new international humanitarian order (General Assembly resolution 49/170)

Report of the Secretary-General on assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa (resolution 50/149)

Report of the Secretary-General on assistance to unaccompanied refugee minors (resolution 50/150)

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 50/151 on comprehensive consideration and review of the problems of refugees, returnees, displaced persons and related migratory movements

Item 8. *Promotion and protection of the rights of children*

Documentation

Report of the Committee on the Rights of the Child (General Assembly resolution 44/25, annex)

Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (resolution 49/211)

Report of the Secretary-General (resolution 50/153)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (resolution 50/153)

Item 9. *Programme of activities for the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People*

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations (General Assembly decision 49/458)

Report of the Secretary-General on the existing mechanisms, procedures and programmes within the United Nations concerning indigenous people (resolution 50/157)

Report of the Secretary-General on progress made at the national, regional and international levels in accomplishing the objectives of the Decade (resolution 50/157)

Report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination on activities of the United Nations system in relation to the Decade (resolution 50/157)

Item 10. *Elimination of racism and racial discrimination*

Documentation

Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council

Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (General Assembly resolution 2106 A (XX))

Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid (resolution 3380 (XXX))

Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (resolution 2106 A (XX))

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[113] The programme of work and documentation for 1996 will be revised in the light of decisions taken by the Economic and Social Council in 1996.

[114] General debate on the basis of the report of the Economic and Social Council.

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance (resolution 50/135)

Report of the Secretary-General containing proposals to supplement the Programme of Action for the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination (resolution 50/136)

Report of the Secretary-General on the financial situation of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (resolution 50/137)

Item 11. *Right of peoples to self-determination*

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on the question of the use of mercenaries (General Assembly resolution 50/138)

Report of the Secretary-General on the universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination (resolution 50/139)

Item 12. *Human rights questions*

(*a*) *Implementation of human rights instruments*

Documentation

Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council

Report of the Human Rights Committee (General Assembly resolution 2200 A (XXI))[84]

Report of the Committee against Torture (resolution 39/46)

Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture (resolution 36/151)

Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (resolution 49/177)

Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (resolution 50/169)

Report of the Secretary-General on ensuring financing and adequate staff and other resources for the operations of the human rights treaty bodies (resolution 50/170)

Report of the Secretary-General on the effective implementation of international instruments on human rights, including reporting obligations under international instruments on human rights (resolution 50/170)

(*b*) *Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms*

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on the United Nations Year for Tolerance (resolution 49/213)

Report of the Secretary-General on the development of public information activities in the field of human rights (resolution 49/187)

Report of the Secretary-General on regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights (resolution 49/189)

Report of the Secretary-General on the question of enforced or involuntary disappearances (resolution 49/193)

Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education: towards a culture of peace (resolution 50/173)

Report of the Secretary-General on the role of the Centre for Human Rights in assisting the Government and the people of Cambodia in the promotion and protection of human rights (resolution 50/178)

Report of the Secretary-General on the strengthening of the rule of law (resolution 50/179)

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 50/180 on the effective promotion of the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on the elimination of all forms of religious intolerance (resolution 50/183)

Report of the Secretary-General on the right to development (resolution 50/184)

Report of the Secretary-General on the strengthening of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights/Centre for Human Rights (resolution 50/187)

Questions for consideration for which no advance documentation has been requested

Human rights and extreme poverty (resolution 49/179)

Alternative approaches and ways and means within the United Nations system for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms (resolution 49/186)

Strengthening of United Nations action in the human rights field through the promotion of international cooperation and the importance of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity (resolution 50/174)

Respect for the right to universal freedom of travel and the vital importance of family reunification (resolution 50/175)

United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education (resolution 50/177)

(*c*) *Human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives*

Information requested in resolution 48/155 on the situation of human rights in Estonia and Latvia (1996)[112]

Report of the Secretary-General on the situation of human rights in Kosovo (resolution 50/190)

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 50/192 on rape and abuse of women in the areas of armed conflict in the former Yugoslavia

Report of the Secretary-General on the situation of human rights in Myanmar (resolution 50/194)

Report of the Secretary-General on the situation of human rights in Nigeria (resolution 50/199)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the Human Rights Field Operation in Rwanda (resolution 50/200)

Questions for consideration for which no advance documentation has been requested

Situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran (resolution 50/188)

Situation of human rights in Afghanistan (resolution 50/189)

Situation of human rights in Iraq (resolution 50/191)

Situation of human rights in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) (resolution 50/193)

Situation of human rights in Haiti (resolution 50/196)

Situation of human rights in the Sudan (resolution 50/197)

Situation of human rights in Cuba (resolution 50/198)

(*d*) *Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action*

Report of the Secretary-General (resolutions 48/121 and 50/201)

(*e*) *Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights*

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (resolution 48/141)[84]

1997

Item 1. *Report of the Economic and Social Council*

Matters calling for action by the General Assembly (Third Committee) or brought to its attention

Documentation

Relevant chapters of the report of the Economic and Social Council on questions that do not fall within the purview of the other items on the agenda of the General Assembly allocated to the Third Committee

Item 2. *Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family*

Documentation

Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council

Report of the Secretary-General on the world social situation (General Assembly resolution 44/56)[84]

Report of the Secretary-General on the progress of efforts to ensure the equalization of opportunities and full inclusion of persons with disabilities in the various bodies of the United Nations system (resolution 48/95)

Report of the Secretary-General on preparations for the observance of the International Year of Older Persons (resolution 50/141)

Report of the Secretary-General on progress made in the follow-up to the International Year of the Family (resolution 50/142)[84]

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation process of the education for all objectives, including the recommendations of the International Consultative Forum on Education for All (resolution 50/143)[84]

Report of the Secretary-General on the development of global disability indicators (resolution 50/144)

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond (resolution 50/81)[84]

Item 3. *Crime prevention and criminal justice*

Documentation

Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council

Item 4. *International drug control*

Documentation

Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council

Item 5. *Advancement of women*

Documentation

Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council

Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (General Assembly resolution 34/180)[84]

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme on the activities of the United Nations Development Fund for Women (resolution 39/125)

Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (resolution 45/124)

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 50/165 on improvement of the situation of women in rural areas[84]

Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (resolution 50/163)

Item 6. *Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women*

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women: Action for Equality, Development and Peace (General Assembly resolution 50/203)[86]

Item 7. *Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions*

Documentation

Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Item 8. *Promotion and protection of the rights of children*

Item 9. *Programme of activities for the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People*

Report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination on the activities of the United Nations system in relation to the Decade (General Assembly resolution 50/157)

Item 10. *Elimination of racism and racial discrimination*

Documentation

Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council

Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (General Assembly resolution 2106 A (XX))

Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid (resolution 3380 (XXX))

Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (resolution 2106 A (XX))

Item 11. *Right of peoples to self-determination*

Item 12. *Human rights questions*

(*a*) *Implementation of human rights instruments*

Documentation

Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council

Report of the Human Rights Committee (General Assembly resolution 2200 A (XXI))[84]

Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the International Covenants on Human Rights (resolution 50/171)

(*b*) *Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms*

Report of the Secretary-General on national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (General Assembly resolution 50/176)

Report of the Secretary-General on human rights in the administration of justice (resolution 50/181)

Report of the Secretary-General on the programmatic, institutional, administrative, financial and managerial efforts instituted to enhance the capacity of the United Nations to avert new flows of refugees and to tackle the root causes of such outflows (resolution 50/182)

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolutions 49/190 and 50/185 on strengthening the role of the United Nations in enhancing the effectiveness of the principle of periodic and genuine elections and the promotion of democratization

Report of the Secretary-General on the possible establishment of a United Nations voluntary fund for victims of terrorism (resolution 50/186)

Question for consideration for which no advance documentation has been requested

Respect for the principles of national sovereignty and non-interference in the internal affairs of States in their electoral processes (resolution 50/172)

(*c*) *Human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives*

Question for consideration for which no advance documentation has been requested

Protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons (resolution 50/195)

(*d*) *Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action*

Report of the Secretary-General (resolution 48/121)

(*e*) *Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights*

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (resolution 48/141)[84]

50/466. Report of the Economic and Social Council

At its 99th plenary meeting, on 22 December 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Third Committee,[106] took note of chapters I, III, V (sections B and D to I), IX and XIV of the report of the Economic and Social Council.[36]

6. *Decisions adopted on the reports of the Fifth Committee*

50/407. Financing of the United Nations Mission in Haiti

A

At its 46th plenary meeting, on 1 November 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Fifth Committee:[115]

(*a*) Decided, as an ad hoc arrangement, and having taken into account the amount of 21,202,240 United States dollars gross (20,840,040 dollars net) already apportioned in accordance with General Assembly resolution 49/239 of 31 March 1995, to apportion the additional amount of 42,404,480 dollars gross (41,680,080 dollars net) for the period from 1 August to 31 October 1995 among Member States in accordance with the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of Assembly resolution 43/232 of 1 March 1989, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolutions 44/192 B of 21 December 1989, 45/269 of 27 August 1991, 46/198 A of 20 December 1991, 47/218 A of 23 December 1992, 49/249 A of 20 July 1995 and 49/249 B of 14 September 1995 and its decision 48/472 A of 23 December 1993, and having taken into account the scale of assessments for the year 1995;[116]

(*b*) Also decided that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there should be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph (*a*) above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the additional estimated staff assessment income of 724,400 dollars authorized for the United Nations Mission in Haiti for the period from 1 August to 31 October 1995;

(*c*) Authorized the Secretary-General to enter into commitments for the operation of the Mission for the period from 1 to 30 November 1995 in the amount of 21,202,240 dollars gross (20,840,040 dollars net);

(*d*) Decided, as an ad hoc arrangement, to apportion the amount of 21,202,240 dollars gross (20,840,040 dollars net), for the period from 1 to 30 November 1995, among Member States in accordance with the scheme set out in paragraph (*a*) above;

(*e*) Also decided that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X), there should be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph (*d*) above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 362,200 dollars authorized for the Mission for the period from 1 to 30 November 1995.

B

At its 78th plenary meeting, on 4 December 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Fifth Committee,[117] authorized the Secretary-General, on an exceptional basis, to enter into commitments for the operation of the United Nations Mission in Haiti for the period from 1 to 15 December 1995 in the amount of 10,601,120 United States dollars gross (10,420,020 dollars net).

50/410. Financing of the United Nations Protection Force, the United Nations Confidence Restoration Operation in Croatia, the United Nations Preventive Deployment Force and the United Nations Peace Forces headquarters

A

At its 78th plenary meeting, on 4 December 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Fifth Committee,[118] authorized the Secretary-General, on an exceptional basis, to enter into commitments for the operation of the combined forces for the period from 1 to 31 December 1995 in the amount of 115,373,000 United States dollars gross (113,866,300 dollars net), subject to the decision of the Security Council to continue the forces beyond 30 November 1995.

B

At its 100th plenary meeting, on 23 December 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Fifth Committee:[119]

(*a*) Authorized the Secretary-General, on an exceptional basis, to enter into commitments for the operations in the former Yugoslavia for the period from 1 January to 31 March 1996 in the amount of 100 million United States dollars gross (98,430,700 dollars net);

(*b*) Requested the Secretary-General to submit cost estimates to the General Assembly at its resumed fiftieth session covering the new operations in Croatia and in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the maintenance of the United Nations Preventive Deployment Force and the liquidation of the United Nations Confidence Restoration Operation in Croatia and the United Nations Protection Force;

(*c*) Decided, as an ad hoc arrangement, to apportion the amount of 89,484,800 dollars gross (87,915,500 dollars net) for the period from 1 January to 31 March 1996 among Member States in accordance with the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of Assembly resolution 43/232 of 1 March 1989, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolutions 44/192 B of 21 December 1989, 45/269 of 27 August 1991, 46/198 A of 20 December 1991, 47/218 A of 23 December 1992, 49/249 A of 20 July 1995 and 49/249 B of 14 September 1995 and its decisions 48/472 A of 23 December 1993 and 50/451 B of 23 December 1995, and taking into account the scale of assessments for the year 1996;[116]

(*d*) Also decided that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there should be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph (*c*) above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 1,569,300 dollars approved for the operations in the former Yugoslavia for the period from 1 January to 31 March 1996.

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[115] A/50/705, para. 5.

[116] See resolution 49/19 B.

[117] A/50/705/Add.1, para. 6.

[118] A/50/796, para. 6.

[119] A/50/796/Add.1, para. 6.

50/446. Financing of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara

At its 98th plenary meeting, on 22 December 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Fifth Committee[120] and having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara[121] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions:[122]

(*a*) Decided to appropriate to the Special Account for the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara the amount of 22,370,000 United States dollars gross (20,384,400 dollars net) already authorized and apportioned for the period from 1 October 1995 to 31 January 1996 under the provisions of its resolution 49/247 of 20 July 1995;

(*b*) Also decided that, for Member States that had fulfilled their financial obligations to the Mission, there should be set off against their future apportionment their respective share in the unencumbered balance of 2,618,600 dollars gross (2,217,800 dollars net) for the period from 1 October 1994 to 30 June 1995;

(*c*) Further decided that, for Member States that have not fulfilled their financial obligations to the Mission, their share of the unencumbered balance of 2,618,600 dollars gross (2,217,800 dollars net) for the period from 1 October 1994 to 30 June 1995 should be set off against their outstanding obligations.

50/447. Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in El Salvador

At its 98th plenary meeting, on 22 December 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Fifth Committee[123] and having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in El Salvador[124] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[122] and pending submission of the final performance report for the Mission in the first quarter of 1996, decided that the additional requirements of 842,300 United States dollars gross (763,000 dollars net) for the operation of the Mission for the period from 1 December 1994 to 31 May 1995 would be financed from savings from prior mandate periods.

50/448. Financing of the United Nations Peace-keeping Force in Cyprus

At its 98th plenary meeting, on 22 December 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Fifth Committee[125] and having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Peace-keeping Force in Cyprus[126] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[122] endorsed the observations and recommendations contained in the report of the Committee, in particular paragraph 41 thereof.

50/449. Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia

At its 98th plenary meeting, on 22 December 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Fifth Committee[127] and having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia[128] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions:[122]

(*a*) Decided that, for Member States that have fulfilled their financial obligations to the Mission, there should be set off against their future apportionment their respective share in the unencumbered balance of 1,966,500 United States dollars gross (1,858,600 dollars net) for the period from 14 January to 15 May 1995;

(*b*) Also decided that, for Member States that had not fulfilled their financial obligations to the Mission, their respective share of the unencumbered balance of 1,966,500 dollars gross (1,858,600 dollars net) for the period from 14 January to 15 May 1995 should be set off against their outstanding obligations.

50/450. Financing of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan

At its 98th plenary meeting, on 22 December 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Fifth Committee[129] and having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan[130] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions:[122]

(*a*) Decided that, for Member States that had fulfilled their financial obligations to the Mission, there should be set off against their future apportionment their respective share in the unencumbered balance of 378,600 United States dollars gross (373,800 dollars net) for the period from 16 December 1994 to 16 June 1995;

(*b*) Also decided that, for Member States that had not fulfilled their financial obligations to the Mission, their respective share of the unencumbered balance of 378,600 dollars gross (373,800 dollars net) for the period from 16 December 1994 to 16 June 1995 should be set off against their outstanding obligations.

50/451. Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peace-keeping operations

A

At its 98th plenary meeting, on 22 December 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Fifth Committee,[131] took note of the note by the Secretary-General on the mock-up budget for peace-keeping operations[132] and endorsed the observations and recommendations of the

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[120] A/50/819, para. 6.

[121] A/50/655 and Corr.1 and 2.

[122] A/50/802.

[123] A/50/818, para. 5.

[124] A/50/735.

[125] A/50/827, para. 5.

[126] A/50/722 and Corr.1.

[127] A/50/820, para. 6.

[128] A/50/731.

[129] A/50/828, para. 6.

[130] A/50/749.

[131] A/50/821, para. 5.

[132] A/50/319.

Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions thereon.[133]

B

At its 100th plenary meeting, on 23 December 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Fifth Committee,[134] decided, as an ad hoc arrangement, in respect of the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of its resolution 43/232 of 1 March 1989, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolutions 44/192 B of 21 December 1989, 45/269 of 27 August 1991, 46/198 A of 20 December 1991, 47/218 A of 23 December 1992, 49/249 A of 20 July 1995 and 49/249 B of 14 September 1995 and its decision 48/472 A of 23 December 1993, for the apportionment of peace-keeping appropriations, that Palau should be included in the group of Member States set out in paragraph 3 (*d*) of resolution 43/232 and that its contributions to the financing of peace-keeping operations should be calculated in accordance with the provisions of the relevant resolutions to be adopted by the Assembly regarding the scale of assessments.

50/452. Programme planning

At its 98th plenary meeting, on 22 December 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Fifth Committee[135] and recalling its resolution 47/214 of 23 December 1992 and section I.B of its resolution 48/218 A of 23 December 1993:

(*a*) Authorized the Secretary-General to begin preparation of the proposed medium-term plan for the period after 1997, on the basis of recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its thirty-fourth session and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and taking into account views expressed by Member States in the Fifth Committee, and requested the Secretary-General to submit the medium-term plan for that period to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session, through the Committee for Programme and Coordination;

(*b*) Decided to consider other issues under the item entitled "Programme planning" together with the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997.[136]

50/453. Amendments to the Staff Rules

At its 98th plenary meeting, on 22 December 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Fifth Committee,[137] took note of the amendments to the 100 and 200 series of the Staff Rules contained in the report of the Secretary-General.[138]

50/454. Human resources management

At its 98th plenary meeting, on 22 December 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Fifth Committee,[137] decided to defer consideration of agenda item 159 entitled "Human resources management" until its resumed fiftieth session, in particular the reports of the Secretary-General on the reform of the internal system of justice in the United Nations Secretariat,[139] pending consideration of the legal implications of the proposal of the Secretary-General.

50/455. Admission of the World Tourism Organization to membership in the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund

At its 98th plenary meeting, on 22 December 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Fifth Committee,[140] decided to admit the World Tourism Organization to membership in the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund, in accordance with article 3 of the Regulations of the Fund, with effect from 1 January 1996.

50/456. Report of the Economic and Social Council

At its 98th plenary meeting, on 22 December 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Fifth Committee,[141] took note of chapters I, IX, XII and XIV of the report of the Economic and Social Council.[36]

50/469. Action taken on certain items

At its 100th plenary meeting, on 23 December 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Fifth Committee,[142] decided that the Fifth Committee should continue its consideration of the following agenda items and relevant reports at its resumed fiftieth session:

Item 114:	Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations;
Item 115:	Programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995;
Item 116:	Proposed programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997;
Item 117:	Improving the financial situation of the United Nations;
Item 118:	Joint Inspection Unit;
Item 120:	Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations;
Item 121:	United Nations common system;
Item 122:	Financing of the United Nations peace-keeping forces in the Middle East;
Item 123:	Financing of the United Nations Angola Verification Mission;
Item 124 (*a*):	United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission;
Item 125:	Financing of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara;
Item 126:	Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in El Salvador;
Item 127:	Financing and liquidation of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia;

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[133] See A/50/798.

[134] A/50/821/Add.1, para. 4.

[135] A/50/795, para. 5.

[136] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 6* (A/50/6/Rev.1).

[137] A/50/834, para. 6.

[138] A/C.5/50/32.

[139] A/C.5/49/60 and Add.1 and 2 and Add.2/Corr.1 and A/C.5/50/2 and Add.1.

[140] A/50/822, para. 5.

[141] A/50/794, para. 4.

[142] A/50/840, para. 8.

Item 128: Financing of the United Nations Protection Force, the United Nations Confidence Restoration Operation in Croatia, the United Nations Preventive Deployment Force and the United Nations Peace Forces headquarters;

Item 129: Financing of the United Nations Operation in Somalia II;

Item 130: Financing of the liquidation of the United Nations Operation in Mozambique;

Item 131: Financing of the United Nations Peace-keeping Force in Cyprus;

Item 132: Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia;

Item 133: Financing of the United Nations Mission in Haiti;

Item 134: Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Liberia;

Item 135: Financing of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda;

Item 136: Financing of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991;

Item 137: Financing of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan;

Item 138: Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peace-keeping operations;

Item 149: Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services;

Item 159: Human resources management;

Item 160: Financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994.

50/470. Biennial programme of work of the Fifth Committee for 1996-1997

At its 100th plenary meeting, on 23 December 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Fifth Committee[142] and in accordance with paragraph 6 of its resolution 46/220 of 20 December 1991, approved the biennial programme of work of the Fifth Committee for 1996-1997, annexed to the present decision.

ANNEX

Biennial programme of work of the Fifth Committee for 1996-1997

A. PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR 1996

1. Financial reports and audited financial statements, and reports of the Board of Auditors
2. Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations
3. Programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995
4. Programme planning
5. Improving the financial situation of the United Nations
6. Programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997
7. Administrative and budgetary coordination of the United Nations with the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency
8. Pattern of conferences
9. Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations
10. Human resources management
11. United Nations common system
12. United Nations pension system
13. Financing of the United Nations peace-keeping operations
14. Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peace-keeping operations
15. Report of the Economic and Social Council
16. Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments

B. PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR 1997

1. Financial reports and audited financial statements, and reports of the Board of Auditors
2. Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations
3. Programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997
4. Proposed programme budget for the biennium 1998-1999
5. Improving the financial situation of the United Nations
6. Joint Inspection Unit
7. Pattern of conferences
8. Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations
9. United Nations common system
10. Financing of the United Nations peace-keeping operations
11. Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peace-keeping operations
12. Report of the Economic and Social Council
13. Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments

50/471. Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations

A

At its 100th plenary meeting, on 23 December 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Fifth Committee,[143] decided that:

(*a*) The rate of assessment for Palau, admitted to membership in the United Nations on 15 December 1994, should be 0.01 per cent for 1995, 1996 and 1997;

(*b*) The contributions of Palau for 1995, 1996 and 1997 should be applied to the same basis of assessment as for other Member States, except that, in the case of appropriations or apportionments approved by the General Assembly for the financing of peace-keeping operations, the contributions of Palau, as determined by the group of contributors to which they might be assigned by the Assembly, should be calculated in proportion to the calendar year;

(*c*) The 1995 assessments of Palau should be taken into account as miscellaneous income in accordance with regu-

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[143] A/50/843, para. 13.

lation 5.2 (*c*) of the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations;

(*d*) For 1996 and 1997, the rate of assessment for Palau should be added to the scale of assessments established under General Assembly resolution 49/19 B of 23 December 1994;

(*e*) The advance of Palau to the Working Capital Fund should be calculated by the application of the rate of assessment of 0.01 per cent to the authorized level of the Fund and should be added to the Fund pending the incorporation of its rate in a 100 per cent scale.

B

At its 100th plenary meeting, on 23 December 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Fifth Committee,[143] requested the Committee on Contributions, in connection with paragraph 52 of its report,[144] to reconsider the inclusion of the Member State concerned in the list of countries falling under paragraph 2 of General Assembly resolution 48/223 B of 23 December 1993.

50/472. Amendments to the Financial Regulations of the United Nations to change the budget cycle of peace-keeping operations

At its 100th plenary meeting, on 23 December 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Fifth Committee[145] and having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the draft amendments to the financial regulations of the United Nations to change the budget cycle of peace-keeping operations,[146] decided to amend financial regulations 2.1 and 11.4 to read as follows:

> "*Regulation 2.1*: The financial period shall consist of two consecutive calendar years, the first of which shall be an even year, except for peace-keeping operations with special accounts, whose financial periods shall be one year from 1 July to 30 June."
>
> "*Regulation 11.4*: The accounts for the financial period, except those for peace-keeping operations with special accounts, shall be submitted by the Secretary-General to the Board of Auditors no later than 31 March following the end of the financial period. The annual accounts for peace-keeping operations with special accounts shall be submitted by the Secretary-General to the Board of Auditors no later than 30 September each year."

50/473. Support account for peace-keeping operations

At its 100th plenary meeting, on 23 December 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Fifth Committee,[147] on the basis of the report to be submitted by the Secretary-General following completion of his comprehensive review exercise:

(*a*) Decided to review at its resumed fiftieth session, no later than March 1996, the current methodology for financing the support account, in the light of the changing requirements for, and nature of, backstopping of peace-keeping operations at Headquarters and taking into account the report to be submitted by the Board of Auditors, and noted the statement made by the Controller to the Fifth Committee on 28 November 1995[148] on the review of the financing formula;

(*b*) Also decided, on an exceptional basis, pending consideration of the report of the Secretary-General:

- (i) To establish as a temporary post the position of Special Adviser to the Secretary-General;
- (ii) To continue, for the period from 1 February to 31 March 1996, the sixty-one temporary posts authorized in paragraph 12 of General Assembly resolution 49/250 of 20 July 1995;
- (iii) To authorize the amounts of 40,000 United States dollars for overtime and 900,000 dollars for common services for the period from 1 January to 31 March 1996.

50/474. Relocation of Ukraine to the group of Member States set out in paragraph 3 (*c*) of General Assembly resolution 43/232

At its 100th plenary meeting, on 23 December 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Fifth Committee,[149] decided to defer action on the draft decision entitled "Relocation of Ukraine to the group of Member States set out in paragraph 3 (*c*) of General Assembly resolution 43/232"[150] until its resumed fiftieth session.

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[144] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 11* (A/50/11).

[145] A/50/850, para. 5.

[146] A/50/787.

[147] A/50/850/Add.1, para. 5.

[148] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Fifth Committee*, 32nd meeting, and corrigendum.

[149] A/50/851, para. 6.

[150] A/C.5/50/L.9.

7. *Decisions adopted on the reports of the Sixth Committee*

50/416. Consideration of the draft articles on the status of the diplomatic courier and the diplomatic bag not accompanied by diplomatic courier and of the draft optional protocols thereto

At its 87th plenary meeting, on 11 December 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Sixth Committee,[151] wishing to pay tribute to the valuable work done by the International Law Commission on the draft articles on the status of the diplomatic courier and the diplomatic bag not accompanied by diplomatic courier and of the draft optional protocols thereto, decided to bring the draft articles prepared by the Commission[152] to the attention of Member States, together with the observations made by Member States in written form or orally during the debates of the Sixth Committee, including the report of the Vice-Chairman of the Sixth Committee at the forty-seventh session of the General Assembly,[153] and to remind Member States of the possibility that this field of international law and any further developments within it may be subject to codification at an appropriate time in the future.

ANNEX I

COMPOSITION OF ORGANS

This list provides a reference to the composition of the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council, the Trusteeship Council and the International Court of Justice, and of organs established by the General Assembly.

Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole for the mid-term review of the implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Develpoment of Africa in the 1990s	Open to all Member States. See resolution 50/160
Ad Hoc Committee on the Elaboration of an International Convention Dealing with the Safety and Security of United Nations and Associated Personnel	Open to all Member States. For the membership of the Committee at its first and second sessions, in 1994, see A/AC.242/INF/1 and A/AC.242/INF/2 and Add.1, respectively
Ad Hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean	See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 29* (A/50/29), para. 4
Ad Hoc Committee on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court	Open to all Member States. See resolution 49/53 and A/AC.244/INF/1 and Add.1
Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts established pursuant to General Assembly resolution 48/218 [Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations]	See decision 48/322
Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Working Group on the Implementation of the Principle of Capacity to Pay	See decision 49/323. See also resolution 49/19 A
Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group of the General Assembly on an Agenda for Development	See resolution 49/126
Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters	See A/49/360, annex
Advisory Commission on the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (members appointed by the General Assembly)	See resolution 2963 F (XXVII)
Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions	See decision 50/313
Advisory Committee on the United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa	See A/50/750, para. 10. The Committee was dissolved by resolution 50/131
Advisory Committee on the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law	See decision 50/312
Board of Auditors	See decision 50/315
Board of Trustees of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture	See A/48/520, para. 4
Committee against Torture	See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 44* (A/50/44), annex I
Committee for Programme and Coordination	See decision 50/305
Committee for the United Nations Population Award	See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/50/3/Rev.1), annex II, sect. F
Committee on Applications for Review of Administrative Tribunal Judgements	Composed of the Member States represented on the General Committee of the General Assembly at the fiftieth session (see decisions 50/302, 50/303 and 50/304)
Committee on Conferences	See decision 50/310
Committee on Contributions	See decision 50/314
Committee on Information	See decision 50/311 and 50/411
Committee on Relations with the Host Country	See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 26* (A/50/26), para. 3
Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women	Ibid., *Supplement No. 38* (A/50/38), annex II
Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination	Ibid., *Supplement No. 18* (A/50/18), sect. I.C
Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People	Ibid., *Supplement No. 35* (A/50/35), para. 1
Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space	See decision 49/319
Committee on the Rights of the Child	Established in accordance with article 43 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (see also resolution 44/25, annex). See also *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 41* (A/49/41), annex III

Conference on Disarmament	For the list of States participating in the 1995 session of the Conference, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/50/27), sect. II.B
Consultative Committee on the United Nations Development Fund for Women	See decisions 49/317 A and B
Council of the United Nations University	See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 31* (A/49/31), annex IV
Credentials Committee	See decision 50/301
Disarmament Commission	Open to all Member States. See resolution S-10/2, para. 118
Economic and Social Council	See decision 50/307
General Committee	See decisions 50/302, 50/303 and 50/304
Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme	See decision 50/308
High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries	For the list of participants in the ninth session of the Committee, in 1995, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 39* (A/50/39), sect. II.B
High-level Open-ended Working Group on the Financial Situation of the United Nations	See resolution 49/143
Human Rights Committee	See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 40* (A/50/40), vol. I, annex II
Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for a Framework Convention on Climate Change	For the lists of participants in the eleventh session of the Committee, in 1995, see A/AC.237/91, sect. II.D
Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for the Elaboration of an International Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa	For the list of participants in the sixth and seventh sessions of the Committee, in 1995, see A/50/74, annex, sect. II.C and A/50/74/Add.1, annex, sect. II.C
International Civil Service Commission	See decision 49/313
International Court of Justice	See decisions 49/222 A to C
International Law Commission	See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 10* (A/50/10), chap. I, para. 2
Investments Committee	See decision 50/316
Joint Inspection Unit	See decision 50/318
Open-ended Working Group on the Question of Equitable Representation on and Increase in the Membership of the Security Council	See resolution 48/26
Preparatory Committee for the Fiftieth Anniversary of the United Nations	Open to all Member States. See decision 46/472
Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)	For the list of participants in the Committee in 1995, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 37* (A/50/37), sect. I.B
Preparatory Committee on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court	Open to all Member States. See resolution 50/46
Scientific and Technical Committee on the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction	See resolution 44/236, annex, sect. D
Security Council	See decision 50/306
Special Committee on Peace-keeping Operations	See decision 45/326
Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization	See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 33* (A/50/33), para. 2
Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples	Ibid., *Supplement No. 23* (A/50/23), chap. I, para. 14
Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories	Ibid., *Twenty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 30A* (A/9030/Add.1), decision on agenda item 45. See also resolution 44/48 A, para. 25
Special Committee to Select the Winners of the United Nations Human Rights Prize	See resolution 2217 A (XXI), annex, Recommendation C (*d*)
Special High-level Council for the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction	See resolution 44/236, annex, sect. D
Trade and Development Board	For the lists of participants in the Board in 1995, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 15* (A/50/15)
Trusteeship Council	See *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-ninth Year, Special Supplement No. 1*, part I, para. 1
United Nations Administrative Tribunal	See decision 50/317

United Nations Commission on International Trade Law	See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/50/17), chap. I, sect. B
United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine	See resolution 194 (III) and note thereto
United Nations Conference on Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks	For the list of participants in the fifth and sixth sessions of the Conference, in 1995, see A/CONF.164/29, sect. I.B, and A/CONF.164/36, sect. I.B, respectively
United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board	See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 9* (A/49/9), annex X
United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation	See decision 47/320
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133.	Financing of the United Nations Mission in Haiti	Resolution 50/90 Decisions 50/407 A and B	276 347
134.	Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Liberia	Resolution 50/210	288
135.	Financing of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda	Resolution 50/211	290
136.	Financing of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991	Resolution 50/212	290
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140.	United Nations Decade of International Law	Resolution 50/44	305
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150.	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Inter-Parliamentary Union	Resolution 50/15	21
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155.	Observer status for the Central American Integration System in the General Assembly	Resolution 50/2	11
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162.	Universal Congress on the Panama Canal	Resolution 50/12	19
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164.	Normalization of the situation concerning South Africa	Resolution 50/83	57
165.	Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women: Action for Equality, Development and Peace	Resolution 50/42 Resolution 50/202 Resolution 50/203 Decision 50/463	33 269 270 341
166.	Admission of the World Tourism Organization to membership in the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund	Decision 50/455	349

ANNEX IV

CHECK-LIST OF RESOLUTIONS AND DECISIONS

This check-list includes the resolutions and decisions adopted by the General Assembly from 19 September to 23 December 1995. The column "Voting result" indicates the number of votes in favour, the number of votes against and the number of abstentions for those resolutions and decisions which were adopted by a formal vote. Unless otherwise indicated, all the votes were recorded votes. The details of the voting, which are available only for recorded votes, appear in the verbatim record of the relevant plenary meeting (see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Plenary Meetings*); a complete tabulation of those results by Member State will be found in the annex to the *Index to Proceedings of the General Assembly* (ST/LIB/SER.B/A.52, Part I).

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No.	*Title*	*Item*	*Plenary meeting*	*Date of adoption*	*Voting result*	*Page*
50/1	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization	153	30th	12 October 1995		11
50/2	Observer status for the Central American Integration System in the General Assembly	155	30th	12 October 1995		11
50/3	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Agency for Cultural and Technical Cooperation	157	31st	16 October 1995		12
50/4	Credentials of representatives to the fiftieth session of the General Assembly					
	Resolution A	3 (*b*)	33rd	18 October 1995		12
	Resolution B	3 (*b*)	91st	14 December 1995		12
50/5	Commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the end of the Second World War	36	33rd	18 October 1995		12
50/6	Declaration on the Occasion of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the United Nations	29	40th	24 October 1995		13
50/7	Mission of the United Nations in El Salvador	45	45th	31 October 1995		15
50/8	Revision of the General Regulations of the World Food Programme and reconstitution of the Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes as the Executive Board of the World Food Programme	12	46th	1 November 1995		140
50/9	Report of the International Atomic Energy Agency	14	47th	1 November 1995	144-1-8	16
50/10	Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba	27	48th	2 November 1995	117-3-38	17
50/11	Multilingualism	156	49th	2 November 1995	100-35-29	18
50/12	Universal Congress on the Panama Canal	162	52nd	7 November 1995		19
50/13	The Olympic Ideal	40	52nd	7 November 1995		20
50/14	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Latin American Economic System	25	60th	15 November 1995		20
50/15	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Inter-Parliamentary Union	150	61st	15 November 1995		21
50/16	Cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States	31	67th	20 November 1995		21
50/17	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference	32	67th	20 November 1995		22
50/18	Zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic	37	69th	27 November 1995	124-0-1	23
50/19	Participation of volunteers, "White Helmets", in activities of the United Nations in the field of humanitarian relief, rehabilitation and technical cooperation for development	154	72nd	28 November 1995		24
50/20	Financing of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force	122 (*a*)	76th	1 December 1995		274
50/21	Middle East peace process	44	79th	4 December 1995	148-4-1	25
50/22	The situation in the Middle East					
	A. Jerusalem	44	79th	4 December 1995	133-1-13	26
	B. The Syrian Golan	44	79th	4 December 1995	66-2-79	26
50/23	Law of the sea	39	81st	5 December 1995	132-1-3	27
50/24	Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks	96 (*c*)	81st	5 December 1995		28

Resolution No.	Title	Item	Plenary meeting	Date of adoption	Voting result	Page
50/25	Large-scale pelagic drift-net fishing and its impact on the living marine resources of the world's oceans and seas; unauthorized fishing in zones of national jurisdiction and its impact on the living marine resources of the world's oceans and seas; and fisheries by-catch and discards and their impact on the sustainable use of the world's living marine resources	96 (*c*)	81st	5 December 1995		29
50/26	Effects of atomic radiation	82	82nd	6 December 1995		116
50/27	International co-operation in the peaceful uses of outer space	83	82nd	6 December 1995		116
50/28	United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East					
	A. Assistance to Palestine refugees	84	82nd	6 December 1995	145-1-1	119
	B. Working Group on the Financing of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East	84	82nd	6 December 1995		120
	C. Persons displaced as a result of the June 1967 and subsequent hostilities	84	82nd	6 December 1995	147-2-0	120
	D. Offers by Member States of grants and scholarships for higher education, including vocational training, for Palestine refugees	84	82nd	6 December 1995	150-0-1	121
	E. Operations of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East	84	82nd	6 December 1995	146-2-3	121
	F. Revenues derived from Palestine refugees' properties	84	82nd	6 December 1995	98-2-48	122
	G. University of Jerusalem "Al-Quds" for Palestine refugees	84	82nd	6 December 1995	148-2-2	123
50/29	Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories					
	Resolution A	85	82nd	6 December 1995	69-2-80	123
	Resolution B	85	82nd	6 December 1995	147-2-4	124
	Resolution C	85	82nd	6 December 1995	144-2-7	124
	Resolution D	85	82nd	6 December 1995	139-1-13	125
50/30	Comprehensive review of the whole question of peace-keeping operations in all their aspects	86	82nd	6 December 1995		125
50/31	Questions relating to information					
	A. Information in the service of humanity	87	82nd	6 December 1995		126
	B. United Nations public information policies and activities	87	82nd	6 December 1995		127
50/32	Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations	88	82nd	6 December 1995	153-0-4	128
50/33	Activities of foreign economic and other interests which impede the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples in Territories under colonial domination	89 and 18	82nd	6 December 1995	93-51-3	129
50/34	Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations	90 and 12	82nd	6 December 1995	107-0-50	130
50/35	Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories	91	82nd	6 December 1995		132
50/36	Question of Western Sahara	18	82nd	6 December 1995		132
50/37	Question of New Caledonia	18	82nd	6 December 1995		133
50/38	Questions of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, St. Helena, Tokelau, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands					
	A. General	18	82nd	6 December 1995	146-4-3	134
	B. Individual territories	18	82nd	6 December 1995	146-4-3	135
50/39	Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples	18	82nd	6 December 1995	130-4-26	30
50/40	Dissemination of information on decolonization	18	82nd	6 December 1995	133-3-25	31
50/41	University for Peace	21	85th	8 December 1995		32
50/42	Fourth World Conference on Women	165	86th	8 December 1995		33
50/43	United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law	139	87th	11 December 1995		303
50/44	United Nations Decade of International Law	140	87th	11 December 1995		305

Resolution No.	Title	Item	Plenary meeting	Date of adoption	Voting result	Page
50/45	Report of the International Law Commission on the work of its forty-seventh session	141	87th	11 December 1995		306
50/46	Establishment of an international criminal court	142	87th	11 December 1995		307
50/47	Report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its twenty-eighth session	143	87th	11 December 1995		308
50/48	United Nations Convention on Independent Guarantees and Stand-by Letters of Credit	143	87th	11 December 1995		309
50/49	Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country	144	87th	11 December 1995		313
50/50	United Nations Model Rules for the Conciliation of Disputes between States	145	87th	11 December 1995		313
50/51	Implementation of provisions of the Charter of the United Nations related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions	145	87th	11 December 1995		316
50/52	Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization	145	87th	11 December 1995	155-0-3	319
50/53	Measures to eliminate international terrorism	146	87th	11 December 1995		319
50/54	Review of the procedure provided for under article 11 of the statute of the Administrative Tribunal of the United Nations	148	87th	11 December 1995		319
50/55	Review of the role of the Trusteeship Council	152	87th	11 December 1995		320
50/56	Return or restitution of cultural property to the countries of origin	22	87th	11 December 1995	124-0-24	33
50/57	Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	20 (*a*)	89th	12 December 1995		33
50/58	Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: special economic assistance to individual countries or regions					
	A. Assistance for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of Liberia	20 (*b*)	89th	12 December 1995		34
	B. International assistance to and cooperation with the Alliance for the Sustainable Development of Central America	20 (*b*)	89th	12 December 1995		34
	C. Assistance for the reconstruction and development of El Salvador	20 (*b*)	89th	12 December 1995		36
	D. International assistance for the economic rehabilitation of Angola	20 (*b*)	89th	12 December 1995		37
	E. Economic assistance to States affected by the implementation of the Security Council resolutions imposing sanctions against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro)	20 (*b*)	89th	12 December 1995		38
	F. Assistance for the reconstruction and development of Djibouti	20 (*b*)	89th	12 December 1995		39
	G. Assistance for humanitarian relief and the economic and social rehabilitation of Somalia	20 (*b*)	96th	20 December 1995		40
	H. Assistance to the Palestinian people	20 (*b*)	96th	20 December 1995		41
	I. Assistance for the reconstruction of Madagascar following the natural disasters of 1994	20 (*b*)	96th	20 December 1995		42
	J. Emergency assistance to the Sudan	20 (*b*)	98th	22 December 1995		42
	K. Special emergency assistance for the economic recovery and reconstruction of Burundi	20 (*b*)	98th	22 December 1995		43
	L. Situation in Rwanda: international assistance for a solution to the problem of refugees, the restoration of total peace, reconstruction and socio-economic development in Rwanda	20 (*b*)	98th	22 December 1995		43
50/59	Work of the Preparatory Committee for the Fiftieth Anniversary of the United Nations	29	89th	12 December 1995		45
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50/61	Verification in all its aspects, including the role of the United Nations in the field of verification	59	90th	12 December 1995	157-1-6	83
50/62	The role of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament	62	90th	12 December 1995	104-6-53	83
50/63	The role of science and technology in the context of international security, disarmament and other related fields	63	90th	12 December 1995	157-0-9	84
50/64	Amendment of the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and under Water	64	90th	12 December 1995	110-4-45	84
50/65	Comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty	65	90th	12 December 1995		84
50/66	Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East	66	90th	12 December 1995		85

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50/68	Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons	68	90th	12 December 1995	122-0-44	87
50/69	Prevention of an arms race in outer space	69	90th	12 December 1995	121-0-46	88
50/70	General and complete disarmament					
	A. Nuclear testing	70	90th	12 December 1995	85-18-43	89
	B. Small arms	70	90th	12 December 1995	140-0-19	89
	C. Nuclear disarmament with a view to the ultimate elimination of nuclear weapons	70	90th	12 December 1995	154-0-10	90
	D. Transparency in armaments	70 (*e*)	90th	12 December 1995	149-0-15	91
	E. Prohibition of the dumping of radioactive wastes	70 (*c*)	90th	12 December 1995		91
	F. Convening of the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament	70 (*g*)	90th	12 December 1995	111-2-49	92
	G. Relationship between disarmament and development	70 (*h*)	90th	12 December 1995		93
	H. Assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and collecting them	70	90th	12 December 1995		93
	I. Bilateral nuclear-arms negotiations and nuclear disarmament	70	90th	12 December 1995	150-0-14	94
	J. Measures to curb the illicit transfer and use of conventional arms	70 (*i*)	90th	12 December 1995		95
	K. Regional disarmament	70 (*j*)	90th	12 December 1995	165-0-1	95
	L. Conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels	70 (*k*)	90th	12 December 1995	158-0-7	96
	M. Observance of environmental norms in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms control	70	90th	12 December 1995	157-4-2	96
	N. Bilateral nuclear-arms negotiations and nuclear disarmament	70	90th	12 December 1995	105-37-20	97
	O. Moratorium on the export of anti-personnel land-mines	70	90th	12 December 1995		98
	P. Nuclear disarmament	70	90th	12 December 1995	106-39-17	99
	Q. 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons	70 (*l*)	90th	12 December 1995	161-0-2	100
	R. Contribution to nuclear disarmament	70	90th	12 December 1995		100
50/71	Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly					
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	B. Regional confidence-building measures	71 (*b*)	90th	12 December 1995		101
	C. United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa and United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean	71 (*c*)	90th	12 December 1995		102
	D. United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific	71 (*c*)	90th	12 December 1995		103
	E. Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons	71 (*d*)	90th	12 December 1995	108-27-28	104
50/72	Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session					
	A. Report of the Conference on Disarmament	72 (*b*)	90th	12 December 1995		104
	B. Disarmament Week	72 (*e*)	90th	12 December 1995		105
	C. Expansion of the membership of the Conference on Disarmament	72 (*b*)	90th	12 December 1995		105
	D. Report of the Disarmament Commission	72 (*a*)	90th	12 December 1995		106
50/73	The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East	73	90th	12 December 1995	56-2-100	107
50/74	Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects	74	90th	12 December 1995		107
50/75	Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region	75	90th	12 December 1995		108
50/76	Implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace	76	90th	12 December 1995	123-3-39	109
50/77	Consolidation of the regime established by the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)	77	90th	12 December 1995		110

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50/79	Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction	80	90th	12 December 1995		111
50/80	Maintenance of international security					
	A. Permanent neutrality of Turkmenistan	81	90th	12 December 1995		112
	B. Development of good-neighbourly relations among Balkan States	81	90th	12 December 1995		113
50/81	World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond	105	91st	14 December 1995		45
50/82	Assistance in mine clearance	46	92nd	14 December 1995		56
50/83	Normalization of the situation concerning South Africa	164	93rd	15 December 1995		57
50/84	Question of Palestine					
	A. Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People	42	93rd	15 December 1995	95-2-52	58
	B. Division for Palestinian Rights of the Secretariat	42	93rd	15 December 1995	96-2-53	59
	C. Department of Public Information of the Secretariat	42	93rd	15 December 1995	142-2-7	59
	D. Peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine	42	93rd	15 December 1995	143-3-3	60
50/85	International assistance for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of Nicaragua: aftermath of the war and natural disasters	33	93rd	15 December 1995		60
50/86	The situation of democracy and human rights in Haiti	38	93rd	15 December 1995		61
50/87	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe	30	94th	18 December 1995		62
50/88	Emergency international assistance for peace, normalcy and reconstruction of war-stricken Afghanistan and the situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security					
	A. Emergency international assistance for peace, normalcy and reconstruction of war-stricken Afghanistan	20 (*d*)	95th	19 December 1995		64
	B. The situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security	54	95th	19 December 1995		65
50/89	Financing of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon	122 (*b*)	95th	19 December 1995		275
50/90	Financing of the United Nations Mission in Haiti	133	95th	19 December 1995		276
50/91	Global financial integration: challenges and opportunities	94	96th	20 December 1995		141
50/92	Enhancing international cooperation towards a durable solution to the external debt problem of developing countries	94	96th	20 December 1995		142
50/93	Sources for the financing of development	94	96th	20 December 1995		144
50/94	Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa	95	96th	20 December 1995		144
50/95	International trade and development	95 (*a*)	96th	20 December 1995		146
50/96	Economic measures as a means of political and economic coercion against developing countries	95 (*a*)	96th	20 December 1995	100-30-22	148
50/97	Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of land-locked developing countries	95 (*a*)	96th	20 December 1995		149
50/98	Ninth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development	95 (*a*)	96th	20 December 1995		150
50/99	Commission on Human Settlements	95 (*b*)	96th	20 December 1995		151
50/100	United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)	95 (*c*)	96th	20 December 1995		151
50/101	Science and technology for development	95 (*d*)	96th	20 December 1995		152
50/102	United Nations system support for science and technology in Africa	95 (*d*)	96th	20 December 1995		154
50/103	Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s	95 (*e*)	96th	20 December 1995		155
50/104	Women in development	95 (*f*)	96th	20 December 1995		163
50/105	Developing human resources for development	95 (*g*)	96th	20 December 1995		164
50/106	Business and development	95 (*h*)	96th	20 December 1995		165
50/107	Observance of the International Year for the Eradication of Poverty and proclamation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty	95 (*i*)	96th	20 December 1995		166
50/108	United Nations initiative on opportunity and participation	95 (*j*)	96th	20 December 1995		169
50/109	World Food Summit	95 (*k*)	96th	20 December 1995		169
50/110	Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme	96	96th	20 December 1995		170
50/111	Convention on Biological Diversity	96 (*a*)	96th	20 December 1995		170
50/112	Elaboration of an international convention to combat desertification in those countries experiencing serious drought and/or desertification, particularly in Africa	96 (*a*)	96th	20 December 1995		171

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50/113	Special session for the purpose of an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of Agenda 21	96 (*a*)	96th	20 December 1995		172
50/114	Desertification and drought	96 (*b*)	96th	20 December 1995		173
50/115	Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind	96 (*d*)	96th	20 December 1995		174
50/116	Implementation of the outcome of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States	96 (*e*)	96th	20 December 1995		175
50/117	International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction					
	Resolution A	96 (*f*)	96th	20 December 1995		176
	Resolution B	96 (*f*)	96th	20 December 1995		178
50/118	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Southern African Development Community	97	96th	20 December 1995		179
50/119	Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries and a United Nations conference on South-South cooperation	97	96th	20 December 1995		180
50/120	Triennial policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system	97 (*a*)	96th	20 December 1995		181
50/121	United Nations Institute for Training and Research	98	96th	20 December 1995		185
50/122	Renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership	100	96th	20 December 1995		185
50/123	International migration and development	101	96th	20 December 1995		186
50/124	Implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development	102	96th	20 December 1995		187
50/125	Number not assigned					
50/126	Water supply and sanitation	12	96th	20 December 1995		189
50/127	Target for World Food Programme pledges for the period 1997-1998	12	96th	20 December 1995		190
50/128	Preventive action and intensification of the struggle against malaria in developing countries, particularly in Africa	12	96th	20 December 1995		190
50/129	Economic and social repercussions of the Israeli settlements on the Palestinian people in the Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, occupied since 1967, and on the Arab population of the occupied Syrian Golan	12	96th	20 December 1995	126-2-28	191
50/130	Communication for development programmes in the United Nations system	12	96th	20 December 1995		192
50/131	United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa	34	96th	20 December 1995		66
50/132	The situation in Central America: procedures for the establishment of a firm and lasting peace and progress in fashioning a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development	45	96th	20 December 1995		67
50/133	Support by the United Nations system of the efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate new or restored democracies	41	96th	20 December 1995		70
50/134	Strengthening of international cooperation and coordination of efforts to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster	20 (*c*)	96th	20 December 1995		70
50/135	Measures to combat contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance	103	97th	21 December 1995		194
50/136	Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination	103	97th	21 December 1995		195
50/137	Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination	103	97th	21 December 1995		197
50/138	Use of mercenaries as a means to violate human rights and to impede the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination	104	97th	21 December 1995	106-18-31	198
50/139	Universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination	104	97th	21 December 1995		198
50/140	The right of the Palestinian people to self-determination	104	97th	21 December 1995	145-2-9	199
50/141	International Year of Older Persons: towards a society for all ages	105	97th	21 December 1995		200
50/142	Follow-up to the International Year of the Family	105	97th	21 December 1995		200
50/143	Progress made and problems encountered in the struggle against illiteracy: a mid-decade review—Cooperation to achieve education for all	105	97th	21 December 1995		201
50/144	Towards full integration of persons with disabilities in society: implementation of the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities and of the Long-term Strategy to Implement the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons to the Year 2000 and Beyond	105	97th	21 December 1995		202

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50/145	Ninth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders	106	97th	21 December 1995		203
50/146	Strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, particularly its technical co-operation capacity	106	97th	21 December 1995		204
50/147	United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders	106	97th	21 December 1995		206
50/148	International action to combat drug abuse and illicit production and trafficking	108	97th	21 December 1995		206
50/149	Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa	109	97th	21 December 1995		210
50/150	Assistance to unaccompanied refugee minors	109	97th	21 December 1995		212
50/151	Comprehensive consideration and review of the problems of refugees, returnees, displaced persons and related migratory movements	109	97th	21 December 1995		212
50/152	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees	109	97th	21 December 1995		213
50/153	The rights of the child	110	97th	21 December 1995		215
50/154	The girl child	110	97th	21 December 1995		218
50/155	Conference of States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of the Child	110	97th	21 December 1995		71
50/156	United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations	111	97th	21 December 1995		218
50/157	Programme of activities for the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People	111	97th	21 December 1995		219
50/158	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity	43	97th	21 December 1995		71
50/159	The situation in Burundi	26	98th	22 December 1995		73
50/160	Implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s	24	98th	22 December 1995		75
50/161	Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development	161	98th	22 December 1995		76
50/162	Proposed merger of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women and the United Nations Development Fund for Women	107	99th	22 December 1995		223
50/163	International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women	107	99th	22 December 1995		224
50/164	Improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat	107	99th	22 December 1995		224
50/165	Improvement of the situation of women in rural areas	107	99th	22 December 1995		226
50/166	The role of the United Nations Development Fund for Women in eliminating violence against women	107	99th	22 December 1995		226
50/167	Traffic in women and girls	107	99th	22 December 1995		227
50/168	Violence against women migrant workers	107	99th	22 December 1995		229
50/169	International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families	112 (*a*)	99th	22 December 1995		230
50/170	Effective implementation of international instruments on human rights, including reporting obligations under international instruments on human rights	112 (*a*)	99th	22 December 1995		231
50/171	International Covenants on Human Rights	112 (a)	99th	22 December 1995		233
50/172	Respect for the principles of national sovereignty and non-interference in the internal affairs of States in their electoral processes	112 (*b*)	99th	22 December 1995	91-57-21	234
50/173	United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education: towards a culture of peace	112 (*b*)	99th	22 December 1995		235
50/174	Strengthening of United Nations action in the human rights field through the promotion of international cooperation and the importance of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity	112 (*b*)	99th	22 December 1995		235
50/175	Respect for the right to universal freedom of travel and the vital importance of family reunification	112 (*b*)	99th	22 December 1995	86-4-80	236
50/176	National institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights	112 (*b*)	99th	22 December 1995		237
50/177	United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education	112 (*b*)	99th	22 December 1995		238
50/178	Situation of human rights in Cambodia	112 (*b*)	99th	22 December 1995		239
50/179	Strengthening of the rule of law	112 (*b*)	99th	22 December 1995		240
50/180	Effective promotion of the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities	112 (*b*)	99th	22 December 1995		241
50/181	Human rights in the administration of justice	112 (*b*)	99th	22 December 1995		242
50/182	Human rights and mass exoduses	112 (*b*)	99th	22 December 1995		243

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50/184	Right to development	112 (*b*)	99th	22 December 1995		246
50/185	Strengthening the role of the United Nations in enhancing the effectiveness of the principle of periodic and genuine elections and the promotion of democratization	112 (*b*)	99th	22 December 1995	156-0-15	247
50/186	Human rights and terrorism	112 (*b*)	99th	22 December 1995		248
50/187	Strengthening of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights/Centre for Human Rights	112 (*b*)	99th	22 December 1995		249
50/188	Situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran	112 (*c*)	99th	22 December 1995	78-27-58	250
50/189	Situation of human rights in Afghanistan	112 (*c*)	99th	22 December 1995		251
50/190	Situation of human rights in Kosovo	112 (*c*)	99th	22 December 1995	115-2-43	252
50/191	Situation of human rights in Iraq	112 (*c*)	99th	22 December 1995	111-3-53	254
50/192	Rape and abuse of women in the areas of armed conflict in the former Yugoslavia	112 (*c*)	99th	22 December 1995		255
50/193	Situation of human rights in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro)	112 (*c*)	99th	22 December 1995	144-1-20	257
50/194	Situation of human rights in Myanmar	112 (*c*)	99th	22 December 1995		260
50/195	Protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons	112 (*c*)	99th	22 December 1995		261
50/196	Human rights in Haiti	112 (*c*)	99th	22 December 1995		262
50/197	Situation of human rights in the Sudan	112 (*c*)	99th	22 December 1995	94-15-54	263
50/198	Situation of human rights in Cuba	112 (*c*)	99th	22 December 1995	66-22-78	264
50/199	Situation of human rights in Nigeria	112 (*c*)	99th	22 December 1995	101-14-47	265
50/200	Situation of human rights in Rwanda	112 (*c*)	99th	22 December 1995		266
50/201	Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action	112 (*d*)	99th	22 December 1995		268
50/202	Amendment to article 20, paragraph 1, of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women	165	99th	22 December 1995		269
50/203	Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action	165	99th	22 December 1995		270
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50/206	Pattern of conferences					
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50/207	Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations	120	100th	23 December 1995		285
50/208	United Nations common system: report of the International Civil Service Commission	121	100th	23 December 1995		285
50/209	Financing of the United Nations Angola Verification Mission	123	100th	23 December 1995		287
50/210	Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Liberia	134	100th	23 December 1995		288
50/211	Financing of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda	135	100th	23 December 1995		290
50/212	Financing of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991	136	100th	23 December 1995		290
50/213	Financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994	160	100th	23 December 1995		291

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50/214	Questions relating to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997	116	100th	23 December 1995		291
50/215	Programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997					
	A. Budget appropriations for the biennium 1996-1997	116	100th	23 December 1995		298
	B. Income estimates for the biennium 1996-1997	116	100th	23 December 1995		299
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50/216	Special subjects relating to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997	116	100th	23 December 1995		300
50/217	Unforeseen and extraordinary expenses for the biennium 1996-1997	116	100th	23 December 1995		302
50/218	Working Capital Fund for the biennium 1996-1997	116	100th	23 December 1995		302

DECISIONS

A. Elections and appointments

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50/301	Appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee	3 (*a*)	1st	19 September 1995		324
50/302	Election of the President of the General Assembly	4	1st	19 September 1995		324
50/303	Election of the Chairmen of the Main Committees	5	2nd	19 September 1995		324
50/304	Election of the Vice-Presidents of the General Assembly	6	2nd	19 September 1995		325
50/305	Election of seven members of the Committee for Programme and Coordination	16 (*c*)	45th	31 October 1995		325
50/306	Election of five non-permanent members of the Security Council	15 (*a*)	53rd	8 November 1995		325
50/307	Election of eighteen members of the Economic and Social Council	15 (*b*)	62nd and 63rd	16 November 1995		325
50/308	Election of twenty-nine members of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme	16 (*a*)	68th	21 November 1995		326
50/309	Election of twelve members of the World Food Council	16 (*b*)	68th	21 November 1995		326
50/310	Appointment of members of the Committee on Conferences					
	Decision A	17 (*f*)	68th	21 November 1995		327
	Decision B	17 (*f*)	78th	4 December 1995		327
50/311	Appointment of a member of the Committee on Information	87	82nd	6 December 1995		327
50/312	Appointment of twenty-five members of the Advisory Committee on the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law	139	87th	11 December 1995		328
50/313	Appointment of members of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions	17 (*a*)	94th	18 December 1995		328
50/314	Appointment of members of the Committee on Contributions	17 (*b*)	94th	18 December 1995		328
50/315	Appointment of a member of the Board of Auditors	17 (*c*)	94th	18 December 1995		329
50/316	Confirmation of the appointment of members of the Investments Committee	17 (*d*)	94th	18 December 1995		329
50/317	Appointment of members of the United Nations Administrative Tribunal	17 (*e*)	94th	18 December 1995		329
50/318	Appointment of a member of the Joint Inspection Unit	17 (*g*)	95th	19 December 1995		329

B. Other decisions

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50/401	Organization of the fiftieth session	8	3rd	22 September 1995		331
50/402	Adoption of the agenda and allocation of agenda items	8	3rd, 41st, 55th and 77th	22 September, 26 October, 10 November and 1 December 1995		331
50/403	Meetings of subsidiary organs during the fiftieth session					
	Decision A	8	2nd	19 September 1995		331
	Decision B	8	3rd	22 September 1995		331
	Decision C	8	41st	26 October 1995		332
50/404	Report of the International Court of Justice	13	30th	12 October 1995		332
50/405	Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization	10	33rd	18 October 1995		332
50/406	Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas)	48	45th	31 October 1995		332

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50/407	Financing of the United Nations Mission in Haiti					
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	Decision B	133	78th	4 December 1995		347
50/408	Report of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991	49	52nd	7 November 1995		332
50/409	Report of the Security Council	11	73rd	29 November 1995		332
50/410	Financing of the United Nations Protection Force, the United Nations Confidence Restoration Operation in Croatia, the United Nations Preventive Deployment Force and the United Nations Peace Forces headquarters					
	Decision A	128	78th	4 December 1995		347
	Decision B	128	100th	23 December 1995		347
50/411	Increase in the membership of the Committee on Information	87	82nd	6 December 1995		335
50/412	Military activities and arrangements by colonial Powers in Territories under their administration	89 and 18	82nd	6 December 1995	95-48-4	335
50/413	The situation in the occupied territories of Croatia	92	82nd	6 December 1995		335
50/414	Question of the composition of the relevant organs of the United Nations	93	82nd	6 December 1995		335
50/415	Question of Gibraltar	18	82nd	6 December 1995		335
50/416	Consideration of the draft articles on the status of the diplomatic courier and the diplomatic bag not accompanied by diplomatic courier and of the draft optional protocols thereto	147	87th	11 December 1995		351
50/417	Education and information for disarmament	58	90th	12 December 1995		334
50/418	Review of the implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security	60	90th	12 December 1995	109-0-54	334
50/419	Reduction of military budgets	61	90th	12 December 1995		334
50/420	Non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and of vehicles for their delivery in all its aspects	70	90th	12 December 1995	114-1-49	334
50/421	Rationalization of the work and reform of the agenda of the First Committee	79	90th	12 December 1995		334
50/422	Declaration of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity on the aerial and naval military attack against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya by the present United States Administration in April 1986	50	94th	18 December 1995		332
50/423	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe	30	94th	18 December 1995		332
50/424	Documents relating to macroeconomic policy questions	94	96th	20 December 1995		336
50/425	Sustainable development and international economic cooperation	95	96th	20 December 1995		336
50/426	Report of the Secretary-General on the programme for the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa	95	96th	20 December 1995		336
50/427	Note by the Secretary-General on negotiations on an international code of conduct on transfer of technology	95 (*a*)	96th	20 December 1995		336
50/428	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the regional commissions on the preparations for the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) at the regional level	95 (*c*)	96th	20 December 1995		336
50/429	Report of the Secretary-General on the mid-term global review of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s	95 (*e*)	96th	20 December 1995		336
50/430	Environment and sustainable development	96	96th	20 December 1995		336
50/431	Report of the Secretary-General on products harmful to health and the environment	96	96th	20 December 1995		336
50/432	Notes by the Secretary-General on the elaboration of an international convention to combat desertification in those countries experiencing serious drought and/or desertification, particularly in Africa	96 (*a*)	96th	20 December 1995		337
50/433	Report of the Secretary-General on observance of World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought: implementation of General Assembly resolution 49/115	96 (*b*)	96th	20 December 1995		337
50/434	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme on the overall implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification, including implementation in the Sudano-Sahelian region	96 (*b*)	96th	20 December 1995		337

Decision No.	Title	Item	Plenary meeting	Date of adoption	Voting result	Page
50/435	Report of the Secretary-General concerning the core functions of the secretariat of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction submitted pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1995/47 B	96 (*f*)	96th	20 December 1995		337
50/436	Documents relating to operational activities for development	97	96th	20 December 1995		337
50/437	Agenda for development	99	96th	20 December 1995		337
50/438	United Nations Population Fund: institutional arrangements	12	96th	20 December 1995		337
50/439	Documents relating to the report of the Economic and Social Council	12	96th	20 December 1995		337
50/440	Biennial programme of work of the Second Committee for 1996-1997	12	96th	20 December 1995		338
50/441	Documents considered by the General Assembly in connection with the question of elimination of racism and racial discrimination	103	97th	21 December 1995		340
50/442	Reports considered by the General Assembly in connection with the question of social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family	105	97th	21 December 1995		340
50/443	Document considered by the General Assembly in connection with the question of crime prevention and criminal justice	106	97th	21 December 1995		340
50/444	Armed Israeli aggression against the Iraqi nuclear installations and its grave consequences for the established international system concerning the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and international peace and security	51	97th	21 December 1995		332
50/445	Consequences of the Iraqi occupation of and aggression against Kuwait	56	97th	21 December 1995		332
50/446	Financing of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara	125	98th	22 December 1995		348
50/447	Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in El Salvador	126	98th	22 December 1995		348
50/448	Financing of the United Nations Peace-keeping Force in Cyprus	131	98th	22 December 1995		348
50/449	Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia	132	98th	22 December 1995		348
50/450	Financing of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan	137	98th	22 December 1995		348
50/451	Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peace-keeping operations					
	Decision A	138	98th	22 December 1995		348
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50/452	Programme planning	158	98th	22 December 1995		349
50/453	Amendments to the Staff Rules	159	98th	22 December 1995		349
50/454	Human resources management	159	98th	22 December 1995		349
50/455	Admission of the World Tourism Organization to membership in the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund	166	98th	22 December 1995		349
50/456	Report of the Economic and Social Council	12	98th	22 December 1995		349
50/457	Implementation of the resolutions of the United Nations	53	98th	22 December 1995		333
50/458	Notification by the Secretary-General under Article 12, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations	7	98th	22 December 1995		333
50/459	Documents considered by the General Assembly in connection with the question of the advancement of women	107	99th	22 December 1995		340
50/460	Human rights questions	112	99th	22 December 1995		341
50/461	Documents considered by the General Assembly in connection with human rights questions: human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives	112 (*c*)	99th	22 December 1995		341
50/462	Human rights questions: report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights	112 (*e*)	99th	22 December 1995		341
50/463	Document considered by the General Assembly in connection with the question of the implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women: Action for Equality, Development and Peace	165	99th	22 December 1995		341
50/464	Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights	12	99th	22 December 1995		341
50/465	Organization of work of the Third Committee and biennial programme of work of the Committee for 1996-1997	12	99th	22 December 1995		341
50/466	Report of the Economic and Social Council	12	99th	22 December 1995		346
50/467	Report of the Economic and Social Council	12	99th	22 December 1995		333

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50/468	Launching of global negotiations on international economic cooperation for development	52	99th	22 December 1995		333
50/469	Action taken on certain items	114	100th	23 December 1995		349
50/470	Biennial programme of work of the Fifth Committee for 1996-1997	114	100th	23 December 1995		350
50/471	Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations					
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	Decision B	120	100th	23 December 1995		351
50/472	Amendments to the Financial Regulations of the United Nations to change the budget cycle of peace-keeping operations	138 (*a*)	100th	23 December 1995		351
50/473	Support account for peace-keeping operations	138 (*a*)	100th	23 December 1995		351
50/474	Relocation of Ukraine to the group of Member States set out in paragraph 3 (*c*) of General Assembly resolution 43/232	138 (*b*)	100th	23 December 1995		351
50/475	Agenda items remaining for consideration by the General Assembly at its fiftieth session	8	100th	23 December 1995		333